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Klibi holds talks in Muscat

BAHRAIN (R) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi Saturday discussed developments in the Arab World with Oman's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Youssef Al Alawi, the Oman Press Agency reported. The agency quoted Mr. Klibi, who arrived in Oman earlier this week, as saying that he and Mr. Alawi had exchanged views on all current Arab issues and hoped circumstances would allow an Arab summit meeting to take place. An Arab summit is expected to convene in Saudi Arabia in November. The agency later said Mr. Klibi left Muscat after a two-day official visit, but did not disclose his destination. He told Oman radio and television the Arab League was doing all it could to bring the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq to an end as its continuation constituted a threat to international peace and security. Mr. Klibi also said the troop withdrawal agreement between Lebanon and Israel would be included in the agenda of the next Arab summit conference.

Sheikh Sabah visits Syria today

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's deputy prime minister and foreign minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah leaves here for Damascus Sunday for talks on inter-Arab differences. Sheikh Sabah told reporters he would brief President Hafez Al Assad and his senior aides on last week's meeting of Gulf Cooperation Council foreign ministers in Taif, Saudi Arabia. The council groups Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain. The minister said his visit to Syria was part of the council's drive to restore Arab solidarity and heal a rift between Syria and Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat. The Gulf ministers agreed in Taif to seek to achieve an Arab consensus on issues such as Lebanon and the Fatah split to prepare the ground for an Arab summit meeting in Saudi Arabia in November.

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Beirut blast kills military expert

BEIRUT (R) — A Lebanese military expert was killed Saturday while trying to defuse an explosive charge in Beirut's predominantly Muslim quarter of Mreijeh, state-run radio said. The bomb was found near a Lebanese army checkpoint in the area, the radio said.

Kaunda dissolves Zambian parliament

LUSAKA (R) — President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia has dissolved the National Assembly, paving the way for presidential and parliamentary elections expected by the end of the year. No date has been set for the poll yet. Mr. Kaunda announced the dissolution shortly after he was elected Friday night following presidential candidate for the ruling United National Independence Party (UNIP).

New Senate member appointed

AMMAN (J.T.) — A royal decree was issued Saturday appointing Mr. Mithaq Al Hadid to the Upper House of Parliament the Senate. He replaces Mr. Mohammad Mithaq Al Hadid who died recently. The Senate's 30 members were appointed by a royal decree on Feb. 2, 1983.

Islamabad protests at Indian comments

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan Saturday protested against alleged Indian interference in its internal affairs and said India's stance was hostile and damaged bilateral ties, informed sources said. The protest came after Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi told a parliamentary group that India was concerned over events in Pakistan, where some two dozen people have died in recent demonstrations against martial law. Mrs. Gandhi said India never intervened in Pakistan's internal affairs, but would always condemn inhuman treatment. "Statements regarding matters that are the internal affair of Pakistan are regrettable as they are hostile," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said. Pakistani opposition plans demonstration, page 2.

Gulf to resume talks on slick

KUWAIT (R) — Eight Gulf states will meet next week in Kuwait to adopt a \$10-million plan to fight a giant oil slick threatening their shores and work out another plan to cap damaged Iranian oil wells, a senior environmental official said Saturday. Kuwait's Minister of Health Abdulrahman Al Awadi told reporters the meeting will be held within the next seven days. He said the \$10 million clean-up plan was adopted by experts from the eight countries at a meeting here last week. Mr. Awadi, who is also secretary-general of the Kuwait-based Regional Organisation for Protection of Marine Environment (ROPME), said the damaged wells in Iran's Nowruz offshore field were still spilling about 4,000 barrels daily into the Gulf. ROPME groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Iraq, Iran, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

Druze leader, U.S. mediator meet for first time in Paris

Junblatt, McFarlane hold talks

PARIS (R) — Lebanese Druze leader Walid Junblatt held talks with U.S. Middle East envoy Robert McFarlane Saturday as diplomatic moves continued to allow the Lebanese army into the Shouf mountains after the Israelis withdraw.

A spokesman for the Druze leader told reporters that Mr. Junblatt held separate talks with Mr. McFarlane and French External Relations Ministry officials Saturday morning. Both meetings were held at Mr. Junblatt's hotel here.

The spokesman, who declined to give any details of the discussions, said Mr. Junblatt later went to the home of President Francois Mitterrand's security adviser, Francois de Grosvouret, for further talks.

Mr. Junblatt, Mr. McFarlane and Wadie Haddad, Lebanese President Amin Gemayel's national security adviser, all arrived in Paris Friday and have been holding separate meetings to try to secure a peaceful move into the Shouf for the Lebanese army.

Any direct meeting between Mr. Haddad and Mr. Junblatt was however ruled out by Lebanese officials. They said the president's aide had come to see only Mr. McFarlane and French officials.

According to diplomats Mr. Haddad met both parties on Friday.

The Shouf has been the scene of heavy fighting recently between the Druze and right-wing militias, and Israeli troops suffered casualties on several occasions when they intervened.

Israel plans to draw back to defensive positions in southern Lebanon shortly.

Mr. Gemayel has appealed to

people in the Shouf not to fire on Lebanese troops when they move into the Israeli positions but Mr. Junblatt has said he wants a political settlement before the army moves in.

Officials were silent on the various negotiations except for a formal brief from Mr. McFarlane on his talks with French officials.

"I have discussed the results of recent visits to Middle East capitals, and reaffirmed President Reagan's commitment to the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon, the restoration of its sovereignty throughout its territory and the Lebanese government's efforts towards national reconciliation," he said in a statement.

Syria says it will defend Druze in Shouf

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria said Saturday it would step in to defend its Druze allies in Lebanon if the Lebanese government tried to impose a military solution in the troubled Shouf mountains.

The government newspaper Tishrin said in an editorial that any "military decision" in the mountains "would be a crazy adventure which Syria will confront and deter."

Tishrin said that if the Lebanese authorities resorted to force, Syria "cannot but be a direct party which will defend Lebanon and its national (leftist) forces and will not allow the suppression and liquidation of the Lebanese people."

Two soldiers injured by Israeli fire, Syria says

DAMASCUS (R) — Two Syrian soldiers were wounded during a two-hour duel between Israeli tanks and Syrian forces in Lebanon's eastern Bekaa Valley Saturday, a Syrian military spokesman said.

The spokesman, quoted by the official news agency SANA, said Israeli tanks opened fire at a Syrian position at 8.15 a.m. (0615 GMT).

"Our forces returned the fire and silenced the sources of enemy fire," the spokesman said.

The spokesman said Syrian fire was sighted hitting an Israeli barracks, killing or wounding everyone in it.

Earlier, the Israeli army claimed it killed one guerrilla who infiltrated across the narrow ceasefire lines in the Bekaa Valley. A second guerrilla, who was reported wounded, escaped back into Syrian-held territory, the Israeli army said.

An Israeli military spokesman outside Beirut said he had no immediate information on a duel between the two forces Saturday morning.

Israeli-Syrian artillery duels in the Bekaa Valley are frequently reported in the Beirut press, but rarely confirmed by either side.

The two armies have faced each other since a ceasefire was agreed last summer after brief but fierce battles at the start of Israel's June invasion of Lebanon.

An Israeli military spokesman outside Beirut later denied that any tank duel had taken place.

"There was no such thing — it didn't happen."

Israel claims guerrilla killed, page 2

Americans demand 'jobs, peace, freedom'

WASHINGTON (R) — Thousands of peaceful demonstrators, many waving anti-Reagan signs, gathered near the White House Saturday for a rally honouring the late black leader Martin Luther King and demanding "jobs, peace and freedom."

By early morning, more than 10,000 people — the advance guard of a crowd of 250,000 — massed for a day-long demonstration endorsing a variety of economic, civil rights, foreign policy and peace issues.



DEFIANCE IN KARACHI: Supporters of the Pakistani opposition movement, shout slogans against martial law after Friday prayers as part of protests sweeping through the country (story on page 2)

Hijacked plane lands in Sicily

CATANIA, Sicily (R) — An Air France Boeing 727 hijacked by four Arabic-speaking gunmen landed here Saturday night and was immediately surrounded by police, airport officials said.

The plane, hijacked after taking off for Paris from Vienna, landed after Catania's control tower was told it was about to run out of fuel.

Airport officials said the plane, with 74 passengers aboard, was parked at the end of a runway.

The hijackers had not made any specific, political demands, the officials said.

They said the plane circled over Sicily for some time before being allowed to land in this west coast city close to the Mount Etna volcano.

Air France officials in Paris said

Qawasmeh seeks Brazilian support for PLO

RIO DE JANEIRO (J.T.) — Deported Mayor of Hebron Fahd Al Qawasmeh said here that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) hopes to enlist Brazil's support for its just struggle "because that country has great influence in Latin America and the Third World."

Speaking to newsmen after a meeting with Brazilian officials, Mr. Qawasmeh said Friday: "The PLO hopes that Brazil will support the cause of the Palestinian people in their endeavours to achieve justice in implementation of international agreements and human rights accords."

I am here not only to meet with Brazilian officials but also to see Palestinians living in Brazil to discuss the situation in the Middle East region," Mr. Qawasmeh said.

Apart from his meetings with officials at the Foreign Ministry, Mr. Qawasmeh held talks with the leaders of the country's four political parties and with the speakers of the senate and federal parliament.

Cautious Western welcome greets Soviet offer to scrap some SS-20s

LONDON (R) — Soviet President Yuri Andropov's offer to scrap some SS-20 medium-range nuclear missiles as part of an East-West arms accord was received cautiously in the West Saturday as a step in the right direction that seemed short of a fundamental policy shift.

The offer, a fresh bid to head off a planned deployment of new U.S. cruise and Pershing-2 missiles in Western Europe from the end of this year, was published Saturday as an interview with Mr. Andropov in the Communist Party daily Pravda.

According to Western experts in Moscow, it would mean the destruction of between 80 and 90 of an estimated 240 SS-20s in Europe should a Soviet-U.S. agreement be achieved in talks on medium-range missiles that began in Geneva in November, 1981.

The White House said in a statement issued in Santa Barbara, California, where President Reagan is on holiday, that the Soviet offer could be a positive sign but added the Kremlin still seemed intent on maintaining its nuclear edge in Europe.

It said Moscow was unchanged in its desire to keep parity with 162 British and French sea-and land-based missiles, a point the U.S. has tried to keep out of the Geneva talks.

"Thus there does not appear to be any change in the Soviet pursuit of an uneven outcome," the White House said.

Arafat receives King's message

TUNIS (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat conferred for five hours during Friday night with Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem.

Palestinian sources said Mr. Arafat gave Mr. Qasem a message from His Majesty King Hussein concerning the situation of Palestinians in territories occupied by Israel.

But they declined to comment on the possibility of resumed contacts between the PLO and Jordan on joint moves towards Middle East peace, and the Reagan plan, which proposes Palestinian self-rule on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in association with Jordan.

Talks between the PLO and Jordan about the plan unveiled by the American president last September were suspended after preliminary contacts in Amman early this year.

On his arrival in Tunis Friday, Mr. Qasem said he had come to discuss a joint Arab response to Israel's "permanent aggression."

"We cannot delay any longer a review of the dangerous events taking place in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and this concerns also the Palestinian cause itself," he said.

Jordan has repeatedly said that with Jewish settlements spreading on the West Bank, there would soon be nothing left to negotiate.

During the meeting between Mr. Arafat and Mr. Qasem, which was attended by Occupied Territories Affairs Minister Hassan Ibrahim, Jordanian Ambassador to Tunisia Nabih Al Nimr and senior Arafat aides, the Arab situation and current developments in the Middle East region were reviewed, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

Mr. Qasem and Mr. Ibrahim, who arrived in Tunis Friday also met with Tunisian Foreign Minister Ali Baghi Caid Al Sibt "to discuss Jordanian-Tunisian coordination of views in the light of challenges and aggressions which the Arab Nation is facing," Petra said.

Following their visit to Tunis, the two ministers will proceed to Geneva to attend a U.N. conference on Palestine which is due to open on Monday.

Middle East initiative still alive, says Reagan

SAN DIEGO, California (Agencies) — President Reagan says the Middle East peace initiative that he announced on Sept. 1, 1982 is "definitely alive and available to those parties willing to sit down and talk."

In remarks to Friday the Republican Women's Leadership Forum in San Diego Mr. Reagan said, "it's unfortunate that neither Israel nor its Arab neighbours have yet grasped the opportunities afforded" by his peace plan.

But, he said, "we remain committed to the positions we set forth, positions that remain sound, positions that thus far are the only realistic basis for a solution. He will continue the pursuit for peace in the Mideast."

Mr. Reagan said that the multinational force serving in Lebanon, which includes U.S. Marines, increases the chances for a peaceful settlement in that strife-torn country.

However, he stressed that "no one should think that our current efforts there mean that we are any less concerned about solving the broader problems of the Arab-Israeli conflict, particularly the search to reach a fair and practical resolution to the Palestinian problem."

The main portion of Mr. Reagan's speech on Friday dealt with the appointment in his administration of women to top policymaking positions.

The Republican Party, the president said, offers "the greatest political opportunity for women in this country — real progress rather than words and promises."



Ronald Reagan

In his peace initiative of last September, Mr. Reagan proposed a plan calling for self-rule for Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza Strip in association with Jordan, a freeze on settlements in those occupied territories and an undivided Jerusalem.

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reporters after a meeting with elder Chinese statesman Deng Xiaoping that he was not sure Peking viewed the statement in a totally favourable light. "They're interested, but there may be some catches," he added.

Mr. Andropov's offer showed Moscow was conditionally prepared to scrap missiles as opposed to its earlier suggestion to move them eastwards into Siberia away from Europe.

The Soviet leader said this meant China and Japan should have no grounds to believe Western warnings that missiles taken from the European theatre would be relocated near them.

In Tokyo, Japan welcomed the offer with reservations. Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone described it as good news that indicated a possibility of conducting the Geneva negotiations on medium-range missiles on a global basis.

But Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe termed it just one factor emerging from Geneva and said it warranted no optimism.

Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares, visiting Rome Saturday, urged the Western powers to give the offer careful consideration. "There is something new... which deserves to be evaluated and considered by the West," he told reporters.

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MIDDLE EAST

New supplies vastly improve French strike power in Chad

PARIS (R) — France is shutting a steady supply of heavy weapons to its air and ground forces in Chad to improve their defences against Libyan and rebel troops, military sources said.

Helicopters, cannon and anti-aircraft missiles are being airlifted daily to the desert force which France has deployed in support of President Hissene Habre's government.

The sources said the build-up would improve the defences of the French force of up to 3,500 men against surprise attack by Chadian rebels backed by Libyan tanks and regular soldiers.

The defence ministry in Paris said it would not confirm or deny the shipment of weapons. Political sources said the reinforcement was intended to underline warnings to Libya by President Francois Mitterrand that French military preparations were serious.

Mr. Mitterrand said this week that France wanted to negotiate an end to the Chad dispute but could take the offensive if its deterrent force were attacked.

The sources said eight Jaguar ground attack aircraft and four Mirage fighters were on alert in France to fly to the region, should the situation in Chad worsen.

AMX 10 tanks, which can also carry troops, and heavy artillery will be sent to Chad by sea next week, they added.

France already has up to a dozen Jaguars in Central Africa, six of them based at N'djamena with Mirage fighters to protect them against Libyan air force jets during operations.

The aircraft could deliver crucial strikes if Libyan tanks tried to breach the French defence lines established to defend N'djamena.

The Chad government has described the situation in the country as grave, reporting a move south by Libyan tanks from rebel-held areas.

French Defence Minister Charles Hernu held talks with Mr. Habre in the Chad capital Friday which diplomats said were intended to persuade the Chad leader not to attempt a counterattack against the rebel-held North.

Despite its growing military presence, France is committed to seeking a negotiated settlement to the 17-year-old civil war and is seeking the help of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations to this end.

At the same time, it has been obliged to make a military effort which cannot be seen to fall in order to prevent Libyan leader

Muammar Qadhafi from toppling Mr. Habre, political sources said.

Cost to France

An unexplored aspect of the crisis is the cost to France of the burgeoning military operation when it is assailed by economic difficulties and growing debts.

An informed source said Friday that the United States was financially underwriting part of the French effort but neither French nor U.S. sources in Paris would comment.

The Chad conflict has strained relations between Paris and Washington. Both governments seek the removal of Libyan troops from the country but disagree on strategy.

Meanwhile, the Chad government has indicated it is still hoping to persuade France to play a more aggressive military role, nearly two weeks after the last reported fighting against Libyan-backed rebels.

French President Francois Mitterrand said on Thursday that his troops in Chad could not be regarded as an auxiliary force but added they would not be limited to purely defensive retaliation if threatened.

In the first official Chadian reaction to Mr. Mitterrand's remarks, Information Minister Mahamat Soumaila said Friday that "an

eventual (French) response to Libya might go further than a defensive attitude."

He told reporters France did not rule out the possibility of its troops in Chad fighting alongside the forces of President Hissene Habre if the situation deteriorated.

But he said Mr. Mitterrand had not been "sufficiently explicit on the question of whether one day, when France thinks the time has come, he would go further than deterrence and give a more active fighting role to his troops."

The Libyan support for the rebels is so extensive that Mr. Habre's forces could not advance North and take the rebel positions without French help, analysts here said.

Israel denies charge

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel is ready to help friendly black African states against foreign aggression but has no military advisers in Chad, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Saturday.

Mr. Shamir told Israel Radio that Israel "prefers to provide social and technical assistance rather than military aid."

Asked about foreign press reports that Israeli military advisers were involved in the Chad civil war, Mr. Shamir said: "That is absolutely not true."



ACCIDENTAL DAMAGE: French troops, bottom right, view the damage caused by an explosion at a French contingent command post in West Beirut. A French spokesman said the blast was caused by an accidental fire that set off ammunition. Windows were blown out and a truck destroyed. Lebanese police said eight French soldiers were wounded. (A.P. wirephoto)

by an accidental fire that set off ammunition. Windows were blown out and a truck destroyed. Lebanese police said eight French soldiers were wounded. (A.P. wirephoto)

GCC states decide to sever relations with all states resuming ties with Israel

BAHRAIN (R) — Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member countries will sever relations with all states resuming diplomatic ties with Israel, a GCC spokesman said Saturday.

The spokesman told Reuters by telephone from Riyadh that foreign ministers of the six GCC member countries took the decision unanimously at a meeting in

the Saudi summer resort of Taif earlier this week.

He said the decision applied to political, economic and all other ties.

The GCC comprises Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Qatar.

The move follows the recent resumption of relations with Israel

by Zaire and Liberia, whose President Samuel Doe went to Israel this week as the first African head of state to visit the Jewish state since the 1973 Arab-Israeli war.

A total of 28 African countries severed relations with Israel in 1973. Apart from Zaire and Liberia, Israel has relations with Malawi, Lesotho and Swaziland.

U.S. plays down dispute with France

PARIS (R) — United States embassy officials in Paris Saturday praised French actions in Chad as courageous and played down recent differences between Paris and Washington over their military aid to the Central African country.

The comments followed reports by informed military sources in Paris that France was bolstering its deterrent force in Chad with new weapons.

"We have great admiration for President (Francois) Mitterrand's decision to send soldiers to Chad. We find that very courageous," U.S. charge d'affaires John Maraca said in an interview with the newspaper Liberation.

Embassy officials, stressing the independence of French actions in Chad, denied reports by diplomatic sources in Paris that Washington was underwriting part of the high cost of the French operation to support President Hissene Habre.

"All U.S. assistance is going directly to the government of Chad," the officials told reporters.

Huge demonstration set at Bhutto's grave as opposition show of strength

KARACHI (R) — The Pakistan People's Party (PPP), the largest of the country's outlawed opposition forces, Saturday prepared for a massive demonstration at the grave of its executed founder Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, opposition sources said.

The rally Sunday at Larkana in Central Sindh Province, which the sources said could be the biggest demonstration since anti-government unrest began two weeks ago, is designed as a show of strength by the opposition Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD).

The official death toll in Sindh Province protests is 24 but an MRD leader said 41 had died.

The crowd will gather at the grave of Mr. Bhutto, the former Prime Minister toppled by President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq and later executed, to demand an end to six years of martial law and an immediate return to democracy.

The myth of Mr. Bhutto, a charismatic landowner who appealed to the masses, is strong around his hometown of Larkana, 480 kilometres from here, and by calling the rally the PPP has linked his name firmly with its challenge to the government.

In Mehr in Central Sindh, police

Saturday gassed and baton charged a crowd of about 1,200 people. There were no immediate reports of injuries.

The trouble flared just over 160 kilometres south of where the PPP was preparing its demonstration.

Anti-government agitation Saturday also spread to Quetta, capital of the northwestern province of Baluchistan. Most shops were closed in support of calls for an end to martial law.

No serious incidents were reported in the hill town, about 800 kilometres from Karachi, but armed police wielding batons patrolled the streets.

The actions in Quetta were called by the MRD and the banned Pakistan National Party (PNP), which has stayed out of the eight-party grouping. The PNP has its strongest base in Baluchistan, which borders Afghanistan and Iran.

The usually busy bazaars were closed but tea-houses were open. Only a few taxis and rickshaws were playing for trade despite a strong government call against strikes.

The crowd at Sunday's rally will be led by Mashooq Ali Bhutto, a cousin of the former prime minister, from the graveside at Garhi Khuda Bux on a 27 kilometre

march to Naudero, home of his first wife, Amir Begum.

In Karachi, doctors supporting the opposition circulated a petition to the government to withdraw more than 110 flogging sentences already imposed on demonstrators by military courts.

The doctors said the flogging should not be carried out for medical reasons, since it sometimes led to heart trouble and mental shock with permanent effects.

Lawyers in Lahore said on Thursday they would seek to prosecute any jail official who carried out flogging sentences in violation of the 1979 whipping ordinance, which stipulates that no physical harm should be done to the prisoner.

Politician to fly home

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Pakistani opposition leader Abdul Hafeez Pirzada said Friday that despite the prospect of being arrested he was cutting short medical treatment in the United States to go home because of the political crisis there.

"The military junta of Gen Zia Ul Haq should immediately stop the genocide and killing of the defenceless unarmed people of Sindh," Mr. Pirzada, 48, told Reuters.

Iran says foreign states behind drugs

LONDON (R) — Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hossein Mousavi has accused foreign powers of trying to undermine Iran's Islamic revolution through drug trafficking, the National Iranian news agency IRNA reported.

IRNA, received in London, said Mr. Mousavi told police in Tehran Friday after inspecting nearly two tonnes of drugs seized recently in Iran that the "big powers" were behind the trafficking.

Mr. Mousavi, who pledged tougher action against smugglers, said without naming countries that Iran's enemies were seeking to traffic drugs in Iran to "waste the youthful resources of the country."

He said Islamic revolutionary courts must "implement stricter rules" to eradicate trafficking.

Tehran newspapers have reported the executions of convicted drug smugglers. The newspaper Ettelaat said last month that four men were executed in Quchan, a town in the north-east near the border with Afghanistan and the Soviet Union.

Gen. Zia to visit Turkey despite troubles at home

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan's military ruler President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq starts a six-day visit to Turkey on Monday despite persistent anti-government rioting in the rebellious southern province of Sindh.

The visit, planned far in advance of protests which began on Aug. 14, will take place as the opposition Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) tries to spread the unrest from Sindh to Pakistan's most populous province, the Punjab.

Gen. Zia confirmed on Wednesday he would go ahead with the visit although it would take place during what could be the strongest period of the protests.

Government officials had indicated earlier the trip would last 10 days but said Friday its length had not been settled until now.

Western diplomats here said there had been no sign Gen. Zia had considered cancelling the visit, his first trip outside the country since the surprisingly violent protests broke out.

In fact, he had kept an air of confidence in public, they said. He

made several appearances this week and answered journalists' questions with ease, saying the Sindh riots were unfortunate but under control.

This contrasted with his initial reaction. His failure to appear at three appointments in the first week of the protests was widely interpreted as a sign of insecurity.

The visit has also aroused interest here because of parallels between the Turkish generals' plan for a return to civilian rule here and Gen. Zia's programme for national elections and an end to martial law by March 1985.

The plan Gen. Zia announced on Aug. 12 after months of preparatory work is for a strong president, a national security council to advise him in emergencies and electoral commissions appointed by the president to oversee the voting system.

Pakistani newspapers have dubbed it "the Turkish model" and speculated that Gen. Zia's national security council, which he says will be only a consultative body, will in fact be a way of ensuring military supervision of the political process.

They claimed they suffered no casualties in the three incidents.

Zionist body plans to settle 1.3m Jews in West Bank

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — The World Zionist Organisation unveiled an ambitious plan to settle 1.3 million Jews in the Israeli-occupied West Bank by the year 2010.

Although the group is a private organisation, its settlement views generally are shared by the Israeli government of Prime Minister Menachem Begin. Since 1967, when Israel seized the West Bank from Jordan, the group has helped coordinate Israeli settlement activity there.

The group's plan is the latest sign that Israel is pushing towards what amounts to annexation of the West Bank. Israeli official figures show about 30,000 Jews now live in the area (excluding occupied Jerusalem). The plan calls for an increase to 100,000 by 1986.

Diplomatic considerations aside, Israel may have difficulty meeting the group's settlement targets. The total Jewish population of Israel is currently about 3.3 million, and new immigration by Jews is offset by Israelis who are moving abroad.

Serious financial problems also may stand in the way of the ambitious settlement goals. The plan forecasts investments totalling \$1.5 billion, a huge sum for a government that is currently struggling to cut \$800 million from its budget — Wall Street Journal.

Israeli army claims killing guerrilla in Lebanon

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli soldiers killed a guerrilla early Saturday in eastern Lebanon where a narrow no-man's land separates Israeli and Syrian forces, the Israeli army said.

A second guerrilla, who was reported to have been wounded in the encounter, escaped into Syrian-held territory.

The Israelis said the two were spotted during the night after they had infiltrated across the lines near the town of Kamed Al Laout in eastern Lebanon.

Israeli troops gave chase, killing one infiltrator near the frontier while the other slipped back across the no-man's land strip which in most places is only some 500 metres wide.

In two clashes on Thursday six guerrillas were killed, five in the Shouf mountains, southeast of Beirut, and another east of the coastal town of Tyre, the Israelis said.

They claimed they suffered no casualties in the three incidents.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

16:30 Koran
16:50 Famous People
17:20 Mighty Mouse
17:30 Programme on Animals
18:00 Children's Programme
18:30 Programme on Iraq
19:20 Programme Review
19:30 Local Programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Local Series
21:30 Local Programme
22:00 Arabic Series
23:00 News Summary

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 One in a Million
21:00 Techno Flash
21:10 Panorama: Life After Debt
22:00 News in English
22:15 Othello: Part 2

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM 4. 99 MHz. FM
4 p.m. to 9:50 p.m. SW
07:00 Morning Show
07:30 News Bulletin
08:00 News Summary
08:05 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
09:00 Pop Session
09:30 News Summary
10:00 Catch the Words
10:30 News Bulletin
11:00 News Bulletin
11:30 Science Report
12:00 News Summary
12:30 News Summary
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WHAT'S GOING ON

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre 44371
American Centre Library 41520
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 34040
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Hayat Arts Centre 668195
Husseini Youth City 667181
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Y.W.M.C.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 43555

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Tyche Hotel, 130 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Marriott Hotel, 1.30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 8.00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club, Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle, Tel. 815261.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, Tel. 24590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Leventeh, 37440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hussein, 661757.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman, 41559.
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 75261.
St. Epiphanius Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 71751.
Amman International Church Interdenominational: meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisan, 663249.

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qafa (Chapel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Munazzah, Jabel Leventeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30124.
Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 662440.
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

PRAYER TIMES

6:43 Fajr
05:09 Sunrise
11:38 Dhuhr
15:15 Asr
18:04 Maghreb
19:32 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 53259, 53070, 53081, 53171, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

08:15 Tripoli, Larissa (LI)
08:45 Cairo (RJ)
09:05 Agaba (RJ)
09:15 Oubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:30 Jeddah (RJ)
09:40 Dhahran (RJ)
09:45 Kuwait (RJ)
10:15 Beirut (RJ)
10:35 Muscat, Dubai, Doha (GF)
10:35 Dhahran, Riyadh (SV)
12:35 Cairo (MS)
13:40 Kuwait (RJ)
15:20 Jeddah (SV)
15:30 Baghdad (IA)
15:30 Cairo (RJ)
15:30 Paris (RJ)
16:00 Larissa (RJ)
16:15 Athens (RJ)
17:00 Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)
17:05 Agaba (RJ)
17:15 Vienna, New York (RJ)
17:35 London, Paris (RJ)
18:40 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
19:30 Beirut (RJ)
19:50 London (BA)
19:55 Cairo (MS)
20:10 Beirut (RJ)
20:20 Athens (RJ)
21:55 Zurich, Athens, Damascus (RJ)
22:55 Cairo (MS)
00:25 Cairo (RJ)
00:30 Cairo (RJ)
00:45 Baghdad (IA)

DEPARTURES

06:30 Beirut (RJ)
07:00 Agaba (RJ)
07:00 Rome (AZ)
09:05 Beirut (RJ)
09:15 Larissa, Tripoli (LI)
10:30 Rome (RJ)
11:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
11:30 Athens (RJ)
11:30 Cairo (RJ)
11:45 Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)
11:50 Copenhagen (SK)
12:15 Larissa (RJ)
14:30 Cairo (RJ)
16:30 Beirut (RJ)
16:30 Athens (RJ)
16:30 Baghdad (IA)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local selling rates in Jls

Belgian franc 68.7/ 69.1
Dutch guilder 123.5/ 124.2
Egyptian pound 326.7/ 331.8
French franc 45.6/ 45.9
Iraqi dinar 420/ 430
Italian lire (for 100) 23.2/ 23.4
Japanese yen (for 100) 146.2/ 150.1
Kuwaiti dinar 168.9/ 169.9
Lebanese lira 76.1/ 77
Omani rial 106.2/ 106.7
Qatari riyal 100.4/ 100.6
Saudi riyal 105.7/ 106.2
Swedish crown 46.6/ 46.9
Swiss franc 168.9/ 169.9
Syrian lire 63.2/ 63.6
UAE dirham 100.1/ 100.6
U.S. dollar 550.9/ 554.2
U.S. dollar 369/ 371
W. German mark 137.3/ 138.1

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
Fair weather with northwesterly moderate winds. In Agaba, northerly moderate winds and calm seas.

Low/high temperature in deg.C.
Amman 17/29
Agaba 20/37
Deserts 17/33
Jordan Valley 23/36

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 28, Agaba 37. Humidity readings: Amman 41 per cent, Agaba 19 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 75111
Fire, fire, police 199
Blood bank 75121
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 22000-3
Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters 39141
Traffic police 56390-1
Electric Power Co. 36381-2
Municipal water service 71127-8
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53333

HOSPITALS

Husseini Medical Centre 81361-32
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amman 44281-4
Al-Khalid Maternity, J. Amman 42441
Jabal Amman Maternity 42362
Malhas, J. Amman 36140
Palestine, Shmeisan 664171-4
Shmeisan Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158
Al-Musharraf Hospital 667227-9
The Islamic, Abdali 665292
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 77101-3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 75111
Army, Marka 91611

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Mohammad Ibrahim Khalil 56294

GENERAL

Jordan Television 73111
Radio Jordan 74111
Ministry of Tourism 42311
Hotel complaints 666412
Price complaints 661176
Information:
Jordan and Middle East calls 12
Overseas calls 17
Cable or telegram 18
Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jls per kg.
Apple (American) 450/ 460
Apple (Smith) 440/ 450
Apple (local) 220/ 180
Banana 270/ 220
Banana (Mukammal) 230/ 200
Cucumber (small) 280/ 240
Cucumber (large) 90/ 60
Eggplant (large) 130/ 100
Eggplant (small) 400/ 300
Figs 150/ 120
Galic 300/ 250
Grapes (white) 240/ 300
Grapes (black) 200/ 150
Lemon 210/ 180
Lemon (yellow) 330/ 280
Marrow (large) 180/ 140
Marrow (small) 240/ 200
Mallow 70/ 40
Melon 100/ 70
Melon (super)

NEWS

\$3.4m food scheme to be signed

AMMAN (J.T.) — An agreement will be signed Monday between the government and the World Food Programme (WFP) for the second phase of range-land and forage development. The agreement is to cover three years during which the programme will provide assistance in food supplies at a cost of \$3.4 million.

Dr. Hanna Odeh, President of the National Planning Council will sign the agreement on behalf of the government and Mr. Adnan Raouf, WFP representative in Jordan, will sign on behalf of the programme.

The objective at which the project aims is to increase meat production in the country and improve the income of small farmers through three major activities: First, protection of natural range-land, increase its forage shrubs and rationalize their use with the ultimate goal of establishing an increasing number of range reserves throughout the eastern part of Jordan; second, introduction of cereal-fodder system in order to produce green fodder for animal feeding; and third, sheep fattening

instead of early slaughtering. The World Food Programme will provide incentive in form of food supply to carry out the three activities together. The food incentive will be provided to members of cooperatives who participate in the project. Sheep fattening will be carried out through seasonal credits from a fund established by Jordan Co-operatives Organisation (JCO) from proceeds of sale of wheat supplied by the programme.

Fattening activities are an essential part of the project's operations which proved economically feasible to carry out by farmers. According to a cost/benefit analysis, if a farmer sells a lamb of 35 kilograms instead of 15, he can make a net profit of JD 5 per head.

The project will be implemented by JCO in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture at a cost to the government of \$4.1 million.

How to put food to work as capital: Sampler of projects in Jordan provides evidence, page 7.

Chinese acrobat troupe awarded Kawkab Medal

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Culture and Youth Ma'an Abu Nowar Saturday presented Al Kawkab Medal of the First Order to the Chinese acrobatic troupe which participated in the Jerash Festival and put on performances at Al Hussein Youth City. The medal was conferred on the Chinese troupe by His Majesty King Hussein.



Ma'an Abu Nowar

The ceremony was attended by the Chinese Charge d'Affaires and embassy staff.

Petra school to host international physics, teaching symposium

IRBID (J.T.) — The Petra International School for Physics will host a week-long symposium on the teaching of physics at schools and universities on Sept. 24, according to an announcement by Yarmouk University.

It said that the symposium, in which 28 international scholars will participate, will be held at the university's liaison office in Amman.

The participants come from research centres and universities around the world including those in the American state of Indiana.

Switzerland and Sweden, the spokesman said.

According to Dr. Ahmad Salem, dean of the university's higher studies and scientific research department, the participants will review working papers on physics related subjects and methods of teaching these subjects.

The symposium has been organised in cooperation with the University of Jordan, and will be attended by representatives from the Ministry of Education, the Royal Scientific Society and other institutions in Jordan.

Polish artists mount graphic design show

AMMAN (J.T.) — An exhibition of graphic design by Polish artists was opened Saturday at the Professional Association Complex. Some 300 exhibits by contemporary Polish artists are on display at the four-day exhibition which was opened by Princess Wijdan Ali and organised by the Department of Culture and Arts in cooperation with the Polish Embassy.

Embassy.

The opening ceremony was attended by Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Information Peter Salah, director of the Department of Culture and Arts Haidar Mahmoud, Polish Ambassador to Jordan Yozuziav Kachinski and members of the embassy staff as well as other invited guests.

Mufti to devolve power

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Social Development In'am Al Mufti chaired a meeting Saturday to discuss the powers that will be granted to provincial social development departments in a bid to achieve managerial decentralisation.

These departments will be given a larger margin of authority in financial, technical and administrative affairs as well as authority over the different social department institutes affiliated to the ministry, Mrs. Mufti said.

The meeting was attended by the ministry's under-secretary and directors of social development departments in the regions.

ACC's contribution to agriculture outlined

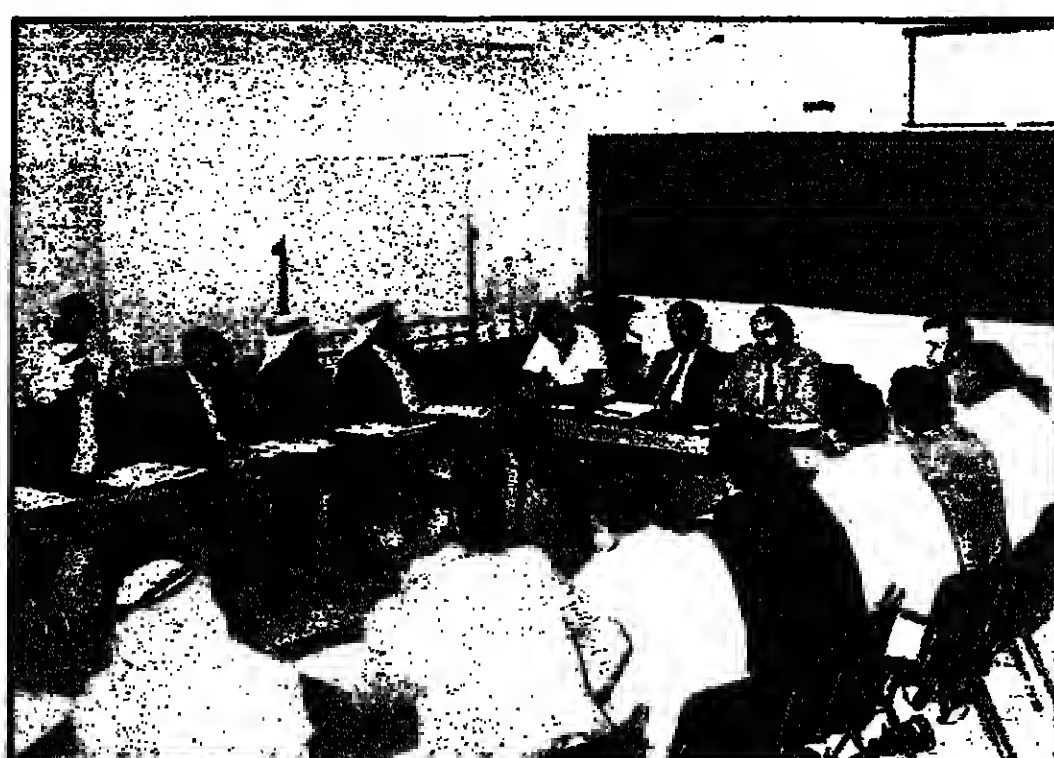
AMMAN (J.T.) — The Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) is contributing very effectively towards Jordan's agricultural development by lending money to farmers to carry out a wide variety of projects, according to an ACC spokesman.

He said that loans granted to farmers have helped in the construction of irrigation networks, the drilling of artesian wells, and the reclamation of land so as to increase agricultural output.

These loans extended according to the three types: The short-term loans payable over 12 months

which carry an interest repayment of eight per cent; medium-term loans payable over 11 years at six to seven per cent, and long-term loans payable over periods ranging between 11 and 20 years with an interest of six to seven per cent.

The spokesman said that loans are granted to farmers if they own land or if they lease land to develop it and grow crops. Most of the loans granted to farmers, he said, have been used to finance the purchase of farm equipment, fertilisers and seeds, to build up poultry or sheep farms, and to set up greenhouses and build retaining



Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hassan Al Momani Saturday addresses a seminar for mayors from the Irbid district of Jordan (Petra photo)

reses a seminar for mayors from the Irbid district of Jordan (Petra photo)

Tal emphasises role of libraries, laboratories in educating children

SALT (Petra) — Minister of Education Sa'id Al Tal opened here Saturday a seminar convened as part of the second conference of school principals. Taking part in the two-day seminar are 130 principals from secondary schools in the governorates of Jordan.

At the opening session, the minister gave a speech outlining the role of teachers and principals in the education process and the

need to develop the roles of laboratories and school libraries in enriching the knowledge of students.

Also speaking at the first session was the ministry's Director of Education, 'Isat Jaradat, who outlined the duties of the principals and their managerial responsibilities.

The participating teachers reviewed several working papers dealing with the role of school principals and also debated several points in the minister's speech.

The principals are attending the second conference in a series of three organised by the Ministry of Education in Salt. The first one was also convened in Salt on Aug. 24 while the third is slated for Aug. 31.

Asfour warns exporters not to cut corners in supplying Iraqi market

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Industry and Trade is urging Jordanian companies linked by trade with Iraq to abide strictly by the terms of their contracts thus protecting the reputation of Jordanian goods abroad.

A circular issued by the Minister of Industry and Trade Walid Asfour said that Jordanian companies should be very careful in fulfilling the terms of their contracts by supplying the correct quantities and at according to the specifications stated in the contracts drawn up during a visit to Jordan by an Iraqi trade delegation last month.

The delegation was here between July 5 and July 15 and concluded several contracts with Jordanian factories and exporters.

All shipments of Jordanian products for Iraq will undergo a thorough inspection before they leave for their destination, and strict measures will be taken should any of the goods be found to violate their terms of agreement, the minister's circular said.

Campaign clears beggars from streets of Zarqa

AMMAN (Petra) — The number of beggars on the streets of Zarqa recently declined sharply as a result of a campaign launched by the Zarqa Social Development Department in cooperation with the Public Security Department, according to the department head Hamdallah Abu Al Samin.

He said that the police rounded up the beggars and handed them over to the Ministry of Social Development to render them free health care and assistance.

Those who beg for a living will be referred to the relevant authorities while non-Jordanian beggars will be ordered out of the country, Mr. Abu Al Samin added.

Amman stock exchange to issue new prospectus

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Amman Financial Market says it will shortly issue a new guide book for Jordanian companies.

The prospectus will include financial, technical and administrative information about the

different companies and organisations in Jordan whose shares are sold on the market.

According to a market spokesman, the new guidebook will be published in October.

Fire extinguisher deadline extended

AMMAN (Petra) — The Public Security Department has extended for two more months a deadline for drivers to acquire fire extinguishers for their cars.

Earlier drivers were allowed only until the end of August to furnish their cars with such appliances. Drivers who do not have fire extinguishers in their cars will be liable to fines as from Oct. 31, a department spokesman said.

Cabinet passes free zone plan

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Cabinet has endorsed designs for the Aqaba free zone on which work will start in the coming month, according to a report in the Arabic daily newspaper Al Ra'i. The free zone is to be established on the southern coast of Aqaba.

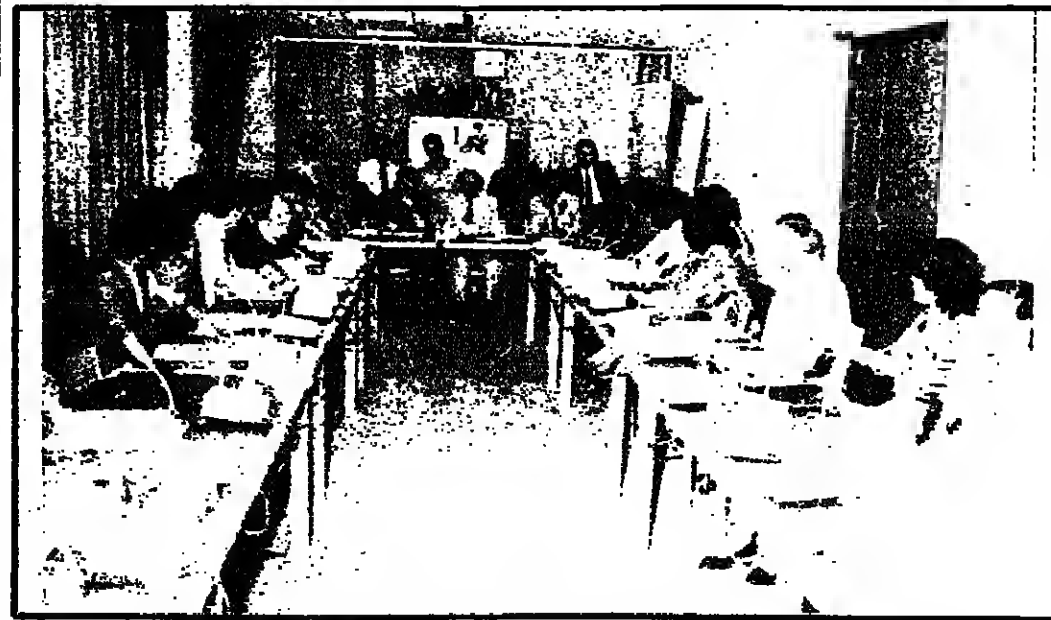
According to the designs, around 11000 dunams will be assigned for trade purposes while another 2000 dunams will be used by industrial projects.

W.Bank permit rules change

AMMAN (Petra) — Travellers wishing to leave for the West Bank via the King Hussein Bridge can do so directly as from Aug. 29, indefinitely without needing to obtain a travel permit in advance from the Ministry of the Interior, according to the Public Security Department Saturday.

The announcement said however that the permit office will remain open until Sept. 5 to issue permits to people wishing to leave for the West Bank via the Prince Mohammad Bridge.

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Arab Organisation for Administrative Sciences (AOAS) in Amman Saturday plays host to a 10-day course on management training methods (Petra photo)



The Arab Organisation for Administrative Sciences Saturday plays host to a 10-day course on management training methods (Petra photo)

Management training programme starts

AMMAN (Petra) — A 10-day course on management training methods was opened at the Arab Organisation of Administrative Sciences (AOAS) in Amman Saturday.

Addressing the opening session, AOAS Director-General, Naser Al Sayegh, outlined the importance of the training process for developing the Arab World's economic and social resources.

He said the AOAS will continue the process of personnel training to provide Arab states with qualified staff for administrative posts.

He also urged the participants from different Arab countries to

benefit from the information supplied to them in the course and apply their new skills in developing their own institutions.

The course involves lectures on the use of audio-visual aids in training, a briefing on different types of training methods and modern management.

One week seminar for Irbid mayors convened

Momani lectures on aims of local administration

IRBID (Petra) — A week-long seminar for mayors in the Irbid Governorate was opened here Saturday by Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hassan Al Momani.

Taking part in the seminar are 41 mayors who will be lectured on legal, administrative and financial matters pertaining to the municipalities, and the skills necessary to enhance their capabilities and help them carry out their public duties.

The seminar has been organised by the Institute of Public Administration in conjunction with Yarmouk University, both of which will be providing specialist lectures during the seminar.

Mr. Momani delivered the first address in which he spoke about

local administration: its objectives and methods. The government has sought to introduce a local administrative system with the aim of forging links between the local population and their locally elected councils, Mr. Momani said.

The local administrative system, he said, aims to foster in the population a stronger sense of belonging to the nation and to seek, through elections, the local people's assistance in appointing leaders of the community and to allow the inhabitants an opportunity to exercise their rights.

He said that the convening of seminars and training courses is one of the most effective ways for the ministry to disseminate information and expertise to the mayors and to familiarise them with the best ways of contributing to the social and economic development of the country.

The post of mayor carries with it the responsibility for organising the best possible public service in his community, necessitating that he conducts his duty with fairness and without any personal gains or ambitions, the minister said.

He added that the new local administration law grants any person the right to attend a municipal council session and to express his or her own views concerning the subjects being discussed.

Pan-Arab measurements course opens

AMMAN (J.T.) — A 10-day training course on standardisation and measurements was opened at the Arab Organisation for standardisation and Metrology (AOSM) in Amman Saturday.

Participants from 11 Arab states, including Jordan, will attend lectures on measurements methods, the specifications used for materials in trade and industry, the measurements, used in quality control and other related topics.

Addressing the opening session,

the AOSM Director-General, Zafer Al Sawaf, stressed the importance of the course in increasing the knowledge of the participants and in helping them to train a more qualified personnel to work in Arab specification and measurements departments.

He also urged the participants to employ the new skills they will acquire here in their own institutions.

The participants will review working papers on the functioning of the measurement and specification departments in a number of Arab countries, and will be taken on visits to Jordanian factories to inspect the application of measurement in the production process.

The AOSM was created in 1965 but first began its activity in 1968.

It aims to unify technical terms and specifications in products such as food, clothing, fertilisers, building materials, oil, mineral and electrical products.



A training course on public administration for officers of the Jordanian Armed Forces begins at the Royal Scientific Society Saturday (Petra photo)

Officials focus on Saudi, Jordanian Haj provisions

AMMAN (J.T.) — Subjects concerning the pilgrimage to Mecca were discussed here Saturday by Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Under-Secretary Abdul Salam Al Abbadi and the Saudi Arabian Charge d'Affaires in Amman Abdul Rahman Al Shibli.

At the meeting, Mr. Al Shibli explained the arrangements which had been taken by the Saudi authorities to facilitate the travel of the pilgrims to Mecca and the

other holy places. For his part, Mr. Abbadi explained his ministry's arrangements for the pilgrims at the Jordanian end of the operation.

Meanwhile, Irbid Governor Abd Khalaf Daoudieh Saturday visited the border town of Ramtha and inspected preparations there for receiving Muslim pilgrims at the specially prepared camp. Pilgrims from Syria, Lebanon and Turkey normally pass through Ramtha on their way to Mecca.

Federations to discuss joint industrial projects

AMMAN (Petra) — Representatives of specialised Arab federations open a meeting in Amman Sunday to discuss matters connected with joint Arab industrial projects and ways of bolstering the Arab Common Market.

The federations group together the Arab pharmaceuticals, machinery and mining industries.

A spokesman for the Council of

Arab Economic Unity (CAEU), where the meetings are to be held, said that the delegates from 14 Arab states will review ways of increasing cooperation among their various federations, and the role of these federations in developing pan-Arab trade.

But the most important working paper will be that which deals with a plan for joint Arab economic action in the field of Arab food security, he said.

Foreign firm interested in buying excess salt

AMMAN (J.T.) — Al Dustour newspaper Saturday reported that a foreign firm has asked the Arab Potash Company (APC) to supply it with the process's surplus salt which is not marketed in Jordan.

The APC has a plant at the southern tip of the Dead Sea where table salt is extracted.

According to the paper, APC produces nearly seven million tonnes of table salt annually, but a large surplus is returned to the sea as a market does not exist for it.

Secretarial refresher begins

AMMAN (Petra) — A two-week higher secretarial training course opened at the Institute of Public Administration in Amman Saturday.

Altogether 23 secretaries from various government departments are attending the refresher course to promote further their skills and orientate them on such matters as conducting verbal communications, arranging meetings, and controlling the petty cash.

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Shock awaits the U.S.

ISRAEL needs to do more than just settle 100,000 Jews in the West Bank to make it politically impossible for the occupied Arab territories ever to return to their rightful owners (see story on page 2). The Zionists need to terrorise the whole Palestinian people living under occupation, and to drive them away from their homes and land; they need to erase completely Arab resistance to Israel's schemes and expansionist plans for these territories; and, above all, the Israelis need America's continued full backing to carry out their illegal and disastrous programmes for the West Bank and Gaza.

Time has not been a big problem for the Israelis. In 16 years of occupation, they settled 30,000 people in the West Bank (excluding the Jerusalem area of course) and expect the figure to be 50,000 this year and 100,000 by 1985.

Terrorising and expelling Palestinians have not been difficult processes for them either—it only takes a Jewish settler with a machinegun to threaten and frighten tens of unarmed Arabs, and gun them down if "necessary". Looking back at what has been happening in Hebron, Nablus and Ramallah recently is all that one needs to do in order to learn about the most brutal of all repressions in modern history.

The elimination of Arab resistance to Israeli expansionist plans, especially to neighbouring countries, has not always been easy, but the Israelis have invariably been ready to shoulder the full cost, in terms of men and material, to prove themselves the undisputed masters of the Middle East. The invasion of Lebanon, and before it Israel's two wars against the Arabs in 1967 and 1956, is but the case in point.

Only the question of U.S. backing for whatever adventure Israel chooses to undertake remains to be answered as far as the Israelis are concerned. But judging by American behaviour in this part of the world during the past two decades and by Washington's declared policies in the region for the present, that question seems to have no easy answer, except that perhaps Israel would in the end assure itself of unlimited U.S. moral and financial support no matter what happens.

American officials have all along maintained that the U.S. does not really have sufficient leverage with the Israelis to curtail their settlement activities in the occupied territories, or otherwise. But who on earth can believe such fantastic claims?

It would not come as a great surprise to the Arabs if their hopes in the U.S. ability to restrain the Israeli monster in favour of peace and justice in this area did not materialise at one stage or the other soon. What would happen next, however, is inevitably going to be a shock to the Americans.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: A marvellous opportunity

THE U.N. conference on Palestine opening in Geneva Monday represents a test of the Arabs' ability to undertake organised action at an international level. The conference, which is to be attended by representatives from 45 nations, will be addressed by delegates from Arab states and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). It is thus a marvellous opportunity for the Arabs, through their approach and coordination, to restore the world's confidence in the Arab Nation and its ability to adopt a joint strategy so that the Palestine problem can benefit from the conference. This conference is regarded by many as a starting point for the international community to translate its theoretical support for the Arabs' just cause into practical action intended to put an end to aggression and establish a just and comprehensive Middle East peace. A conference designed to put theory into practice is totally different in nature than the many previous conferences that have only sought to rally moral support for the Palestinians. Therefore the Arab's performance at this conference will have a tremendous effect on the situation and will greatly influence world nations to help the Arabs and Palestinians in achieving the goals they aspire to.

Al Dustour: U.S. credibility gap continues

PRESIDENT REAGAN has recently brought back to the world's memory his Middle East peace proposal, almost one year after they were first announced. President Reagan thinks that this proposal, which has long been dead—killed by Israel's outright rejection—is still the bearer of U.S. credibility. This is totally incorrect however due to Washington's constant failure to back up its words with action, and due to its inability to put an end to Israel's settlement policy. The loss of U.S. credibility in the region was due mainly to Washington's announcement of its intention to revive its strategic agreement with Israel and its support for Israel's settlement policy that has always constituted a threat to the region's peace and stability.

Washington's new stand came only months after President Reagan announced his peace proposal. Most recently the U.S. killed a resolution at the U.N. Security Council which would have called for the dismantling of Israel's settlement in the occupied Arab lands, while also announcing plans to sell Israel another 75 F-16 war planes. Washington has thus revealed its total and unequivocally biased support for Israel, helping materially, politically and militarily to bolster its superiority over the Arabs. Washington also proved incapable of forcing the Israeli forces to withdraw completely from Lebanon and thus furnished further proof of its impotence that in turn added to its lack to its credibility.

Sawt Al Shaab: Israel's aim in Lebanon

UNDOUBTEDLY THE Israelis are pulling their forces back from the Shouf mountains around Beirut because of armed resistance. The Israelis would have liked to stay in their positions close to Beirut, but the resistance has obviously made it impossible for them to do so, despite the help they get from their allies—the Falangists. The Falangists had thought that Israel's successes in Lebanon would also serve their cause, and they seem not to have realised that Israel's invasion was aimed at the destruction of all Lebanon. The Falangists' announcement that they will join the ranks of the army when it starts being deployed in the Shouf mountains is another proof that the leaders of the Falangists, who have now assumed power in Lebanon, are helping the Israelis again in achieving their goal. It seems that the legitimate government of Lebanon is also following this course and serving Israel's objectives.

COME TO THINK OF IT

The U.S. on the wrong side

By Ibrahim Abu Nab

ACCORDING to Murphy's law, what you don't know can't hurt you. But in actual fact it can and deeply so. It is amazing how little the U.S. knows or chooses to know about the Lebanon and how much that can hurt. The U.S. Marines are already there, on the wrong side of the moral issue, and they can just as easily be embroiled in a senseless and bloody fight that can grow out of all proportions to the size of Lebanon.

The other day I had lunch with one of the American "senior" officials who pass by in their new usual "fact-finding" tours. He seemed not a little surprised when I told him of the Arab perception of the Israeli-American stance in the Lebanon and how the Israelis were thought to blame for refusing to withdraw unilaterally before the Syrians withdrew first. The American official blinked in wonder and said to me: "I haven't heard that from the Israelis and I'll be very surprised if they had said so."

Come to think of it, the Israelis may not have said it in so many words. But they said it just the same albeit in a different way. They said they will withdraw from all of the Lebanon in the end even though they refused to specify when that end will be. They agreed to a simultaneous withdrawal from Lebanon with the Syrians but only if Syria has to agree on withdrawal first is different from saying that Syria would

have to withdraw first.

The problem, I think, is more than just semantic. It is not that the Arabs do not understand what the Israelis mean, but perhaps because they understand it too well. The Americans may have to go not by what is on record but by the new facts which are being created which go against the record. For a similar thing had occurred more than 15 years ago when the Israelis occupied the Jordanian West Bank, the Syrian Golan Heights and the Egyptian Sinai and Gaza. They went on record then as saying that they had "no interest in other people's territories." They will withdraw in the end, they said, but only after the conclusion of a contractual peace with their adversaries. Except for Sadat's Egypt, that peace has not come yet and the occupied Arab territories have been virtually annexed.

The United Nations had provided a formula for a so-called "lasting and just peace" in the form of the Security Council's Resolution 242 in 1967 which provided for the rights of all states in the region to live within mutually recognised borders. The inadmissibility of the acquisition of land by force and the necessity of Israeli withdrawal from territories occupied in the June 1967 war. The resolution which was accepted by all parties remains to be fully implemented.

The "technical" obstacle to

peace has always been the Israeli insistence on direct negotiations with the Arabs. But according to Arab perceptions, to negotiate from a point of weakness is to capitulate. The Israeli demand for direct negotiations is seen as a delaying tactic which serves no purpose but Israeli expansionist aims. The Syrian case in the Lebanon is worth considering.

As the Syrians see it, an Israeli-Syrian simultaneous withdrawal may require direct or at best indirect negotiations between the two parties in order to draw up a timetable of withdrawals. Bad as this may be, because it would equate the Syrian "legal" presence in the Lebanon with that of the Israeli "illegal" one and lend legitimacy to the Israeli invasion in the process, the proposed act has already been intercepted and contravened by the U.S.—sponsored Israeli-Lebanon agreement for withdrawal concluded last May.

The agreement, reached under Mr. Philip Habib's auspices, had several drawbacks. It failed to meet United Nations resolutions for unconditional Israeli withdrawal and failed to consult with the Syrian interests and concerns. A very bad piece of diplomatic work, the agreement presupposed that the Syrians would leave the Lebanon without farewells and the Israelis would have their own say in Lebanon's affairs afterwards.

The American-delivered baby did not only fail to recognise the fact that the Syrians went into the Lebanon in 1976 upon invitation by the then legally constituted government of the Lebanon while the Israelis went there in 1982 uninvited, but it also ignored the historical and special link between Syria and Lebanon as well as the internal Lebanese communal balance.

Historically a part of Syria, the modern state of Lebanon was carved out as a "Christian" state by the French after World War I. The Lebanese national pact of 1943 which led up to independence in 1946 tried to create an internal communal balance between all the religious-political groups in the country. The four districts ceded to Lebanon by Syria were perhaps justified to help such a balance. In recognition of Syria's motherhood however, it was agreed that neither country would establish an embassy in the other like happens between completely sovereign states.

This may have looked like a deficient sovereignty to some Lebanese, particularly the Falangists, but it looked like a Syrian guarantee of the balance to the majority. This guarantee was to prove itself in 1976 when the Syrian army formed the biggest part of the Arab deterrent force which was invited in to quell the civil war and redress the imbalance. Ironically, the imbalance was tak-

ing place against the Christian Maronites and the Syrian intervention was in their favour.

The Syrian action, even though antagonising the PLO and its national Lebanese allies, seemed in a way a confirmation of a Syrian traditional role of protecting the status quo rather than upturning the apple cart, and one would have expected this to earn Syria the gratitude of the moderate Arab regimes and their American friend. But it looks now as if it didn't and that Syria may have been tricked by the Americans. For the Israeli invasion of Lebanon last year did not try only to destroy the PLO structure in the Lebanon but it went deeper in trying to destroy the Lebanese traditional formula which had made Lebanon a haven of freedom and neutrality in the Middle East.

By siding with the rightist Falangists party which came into power under the Israeli military umbrella and posturing to others as if it was helping them to resist the Maronite hegemony, Israel was simply playing the old European worn out imperial role of divide and rule. All other parties, including non-Falangist Christian Maronites were alarmed at the prospect of a Falange-ruled Lebanon. They banded together to form the "National Salvation Front" which is aligned to Syria for reasons of mutual self-interest.

Now the front would ask Syria to withdraw only if the

Israelis withdrew first from all of the Lebanon and the political implications of the Israel-Lebanon agreement nullified. This, according to the front can only be achieved through the re-establishment of the internal Lebanese communal balance and the formation of a broad based national government. The newly reconstituted American-trained Lebanese army would be allowed into the various Lebanese areas only after political reconciliation.

This, however, does not seem to tally with Israel's strategy, the U.S. perception or the Falange view. Hence the decision of President Amin Gemayel on 23 August to send in the army to the Shouf mountains in spite of the protests of its Druze and the Salvation Front who all promised to make the army's entrance as bloody as it can be.

And while the Israelis were falling back from the Shouf to the south of Lebanon for "better" entrenchment, American presidential envoy Robert McFarlane was seen as pushing for a bloodbath.

It may be superfluous to ask where the Syrians would stand this time. They will certainly not be on the side of the Falangists as they did in 1976. But the situation has far more wider implications. The Soviet Union is unlikely to stand idle by. And the Middle East is more likely to become a far more dangerous place.

Americans train Lebanese army to replace Israelis

By Michael Sheridan
Reuter

YARZE, Lebanon — Lebanon's untied army will soon face its toughest test when Israeli combat veterans pull out of the Shouf mountains, where Druze and Christian militias are at war.

When the Israeli troops withdraw to lines further south, the Beirut government will hold its breath as the army attempts to replace them in the Shouf. Politicians believe the exercise is vital to its future hopes of controlling the country.

Most days, the rumble of artillery echoes down the wooded mountain valleys to the army's training and recruitment camp here like a warning of distant trouble. Just a few kilometres up the highway, Druze and Christians are busy bombarding, kidnapping and murdering each other.

The Syrian-backed Druze Muslims accuse the army of being a front for the right-wing Christian Falange and promise a fight if the troops enter their mountain fastness without a political agreement.

"Of course we shall go in," said a senior officer. "We have to—we cannot leave a vacuum there. I don't think there will be many problems."

But the officer's optimism is not universally shared. Western military men here say the army has come a long way in the last year. But most add that it still has a long way to go.

In seven years of civil strife and invasion from the south, the army was more or less impotent, reduced to a cipher by more powerful warring militias and foreign forces.

Now, with U.S. support and training, it has recaptured some of the pride and spit-and-polish that marks a crack unit like the French Foreign Legion or the U.S. Marines, both highly visible members of the four-nation peacekeeping force in Lebanon.

It remains to be seen whether it can recapture the military initiative after years effectively confined to barracks.

At present, government troops control only the greater Beirut area, and their grip on that has been tenuous at times.

On July 15, troops faced what amounted to an armed challenge by Shi'ite muslim gunmen in a slum area not five minutes drive from the prime minister's office in Beirut.

It was a messy street battle marked by what Western military observers saw as poor fire discipline by the army and slack control of its men.

The army made the headlines that day chiefly because a group of foreign journalists covering the fighting from the sidelines were arrested, blindfolded and beaten up by soldiers. They were freed after two hours in detention.

But officers remain hopeful about their prospects in the Shouf and U.S. military advisers believe

that, given time, the army will be equal to the task.

The problem is that time is running out.

Israel says its partial pullout to the Awali river will go ahead "within days" and every day the signs of evacuation are to be seen as convoys trundle south and prefabricated buildings are dismantled.

U.S. officers interviewed earlier this summer reckoned the newly-trained army needed until the autumn to get ready to cope with the fierce Druze mountain fighters.

Now Lebanese officers are talking in terms of days or weeks. One said confidently: "We are ready to go in right now."

Israel, which invaded Lebanon in June last year, announced earlier this summer its decision to withdraw partially after a U.S.-backed attempt to get all foreign troops out of Lebanon met with only limited success.

Last May, Israel agreed with the Beirut government to withdraw its troops, but made this conditional on Syria's withdrawal of its troops from the north. This Syria has steadfastly refused to do.

Military sources say intensive cloak-and-dagger negotiations are going on in the Shouf mountains to try to defuse the tinderbox of mutual suspicion and hatred.

The Druze fear the rightist Christian "Lebanese Forces" militia will use the army's presence as cover for attacks.

The army firmly denies that it is partial to either side. But it has traded artillery fire with Druze gunmen in the mountains and young soldiers have been killed by Druze fire.

On August 10, the Druze launched an all-out assault on an isolated army post at Kfar Matta, on the fringes of the Shouf. Under withering fire, the army pulled out of many of its positions and dozens of conscripts were captured.

"Its key opponent is Lebanon's Druze chieftain Walid Junblatt, whose Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) militiamen shut down Beirut International Airport this month with a furious barrage of shells and rockets.

The PSP threatened to hit the airport again, painfully vulnerable on a flat stretch of terrain just south of Beirut, if the army continued to shell them from its environs.

President Amin Gemayel's National Security Adviser Wadie Haddad has just returned from what political sources believed was a visit to Amman and Jeddah. But there was no word of any meeting with the Syrian-backed Druze chief.

Working against the army are long years of armed anarchy when three men and a gun made a militia and the forces of the state counted for next to nothing.

But it has going for it a genuine spirit of optimism among its officers. 30,000 men, a training programme run by the Crack U.S. Special Forces.



Reunionnais fear independence

By Bernard Edinger
Reuter

SAINT-DENIS DE LA REUNION — Twenty years after sovereign states emerged across Africa in a wave of enthusiasm, "independence" is still a distasteful word on the French Indian Ocean island of Reunion.

Reunion lies 500 miles east of Madagascar in the same general area as Mauritius, the Seychelles and the Comoro Islands, all of which are now independent. But its half a million inhabitants appear intent on maintaining their ties with "La Metropole" (metropolitan France). 6,600 miles away.

Yet the standard of living is lower than in France, a full third of the working age population is unemployed and social inequalities abound.

Although independence fever, sometimes accompanied by bomb attacks and shootings, periodically grips other French overseas possessions such as Martinique in the Caribbean or New Caledonia in the Pacific, Reunion remains absolutely calm.

"It is not because France pumps in the equivalent of \$600 million a year, for that is also done for Martinique and the other places," explained Paul Verges, head of the powerful Reunion Communist Party (PCR).

Speaking with perhaps a tinge of regret in his voice, Mr. Verges said: "As I tell all my Asian and African friends, if we were a nation we would ask for independence but that is not the case."

Mr. Verges says that what places Reunion apart is that there was no indigenous population when the French first arrived in 1638 and that those populations which make up the island today have mixed to become "probably the most multi-racial group on earth."

The three main strains making up the population are the descendants of the French settlers, the African slaves brought in the 18th century to work the sugar crop and of the Indian labourers hired to take their place when slavery was abolished in 1848.

Chinese and other minorities have also blended in. There has been little such mixture in other French overseas possessions.

"The meat-grinder of French assimilationism was so strong that the native languages and most customs of the groups which arrived in Reunion have just disappeared to be replaced by French and by Creole which is largely based on French," Mr. Verges said.

And to fact, although its inhabitants have generally darker complexions, Reunion is very much a copy of metropolitan France.

If the streets of the capital Saint-Denis — population 110,000 — are still lined with graceful, colonnaded old colonial homes, the outskirts are now full of functional, concrete high-rise council flats of the type seen near every French industrial centre.

Chic boutiques selling the latest Paris fashions stand alongside French-style low-cost supermarkets and mouth-watering restaurants can be found at many

street corners.

Yet the largely mountainous island, 64 kilometres long by 48 kilometres wide with an active volcano, the Piton de la Fournaise to the east, has its own particular features.

In the deep gorges of the Piton des Neiges mountain range, culminating at 3,100 metres and looking more like the Pyrenees than the southern Indian Ocean, small villages are inhabited by gaunt, sombre farmers called "les petits blancs des hautes" (the poor whites of the highlands).

A sort of French colonial version of the Ozarks mountains "hillbillies" of the south-central United States, they often descend from plantation — owning aristocrats who became impoverished when slavery was abolished.

Due to their isolation, they have mixed less than the rest of the population though many of the blond-haired and blue-eyed children of these generally poor farming families have Mulatto traits.

As badly-off as the mountain people are the sugar cane cutters who, living in clusters of corrugated tin shacks near sugar processing factories, are at the low end of the island's economic scale, although most of them have television sets in their rickety homes.

The minimum monthly wage on Reunion is 3,000 francs (\$375). Medical care and education are free and the state pays the unemployed 300 francs (\$37.50) a month for each member of their usually large families.

At the opposite end of the scale

are more than 30,000 Reunionnais who have the coveted status of "fonctionnaire" — government employee — and are entitled, like their colleagues sent here from France, to salaries 53 per cent higher than those paid for the same job in Paris.

The extra 53 per cent was introduced years ago to entice metropolitan Frenchmen to serve overseas but it created such resentment among locally recruited civil servants that it was extended to them too.

The civil servants, ranging from village postmen to high-ranking officials at the local prefecture which represents central Paris authority, make up about a third of the population if their families are included.

Their salaries are the motor of the local economy and their purchasing power is tremendous. One businessman said the truth behind the fact that there were 80,000 cars on the island for an equal number of households was that each civil servant's family had two cars if not more.

France foots most of the bill to make up the differences in every field here, he said. Exports, worth about \$70 million a year, are mostly made up of sugar and sugar products.

"Despite the inequalities and the problems here, people look at the figures and see that their standard of living is the highest in the region, 10 times that of Madagascar and three or four times that of Mauritius. There's the real explanation for everything," the official said.

NCC members call for democratic dialogue, accountability of public officials

By Ella Nasrallah
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Last Monday's National Consultative Council's (NCC) weekly session witnessed what many observers say its most extra-ordinary debate since its establishment in 1976 to date. The focus of the debate was a speech delivered by His Majesty King Hussein at Ma'an on Aug. 16, in which he stressed the role of a sound internal front in Jordan and the "right of all citizens to enjoy equal rights and responsibilities, stability and security, while the government is required to look after their welfare and provide decent living for all. In his speech during a tour of the Ma'an governorate that Tuesday, the King also said the Jordanian government "will not allow public services to serve as an arena for negative rivalry or a means for attaining personal ambitions or gains". The council's debate came also on the heels of an interview the King gave to the Los Angeles Times and The Washington Post, in which the King expressed shock and astonishment at the new American position on the question of Israeli settlements on the West Bank, and it coincided with a statement made by the prime minister, Mr. Mudar Badran, at the same NCC session last Monday. In his statement to the NCC, Mr. Badran strongly criticised the American veto of Aug. 2, against an Arab-sponsored U.N. Security Council draft resolution calling for the dismantling of Jewish settlements in the occupied territories, and said that U.S. policy was pushing the region to war.

All NCC speakers during last Monday's session were unanimous in their support for the King's speech at Ma'an and his remarks to the two American newspapers on Aug. 21.

Addressing the session, Mr. Taher Hikmat, speaking on behalf of NCC members, said that perhaps the most qualified forum for discussing and expounding on King Hussein's speech at Ma'an is the National Consultative Council. The speech, he said, contained noble ideas and values and directives that must be abided by, and it is the duty of the NCC which represents democratic life in the country and participates in the decision-making process, to debate the directives of the King.

"Our political life has always been marked by moderation and reason and we take pride in that. Thus far we have refrained from idolising the leader and pouring praise on whatever he says or does — as is the case with neighbouring states. But this does not and should not prevent us from expressing freely our views about certain issues and statements (by the leader) especially when they contain clear stands and express positions concerning domestic issues and the course of our future", Mr. Hikmat said.

The strengths of freedom

He said: "In Jordan as is the case in other societies, we have our own internal problems caused by the transitional period the society is passing through and the political circumstances which influence internal development. The recent years brought with them wealth to this country, but at the same time created certain circumstances and new material values that nearly destroyed this country's true values and principles. As a result the internal front began to acquire a more important part of our thinking and has become almost an obsession. Certain weak societies take pains not to mention their shortcomings and mistakes, all because of fear of the consequences. But a self-confident state opens the way for

the public to air their views about the faults, mistakes and shortcomings, because talking about them is a recognition of their existence, and this constitutes the first and inevitable step towards correcting these mistakes and avoiding future shortcomings.

"This was called for by King Hussein in his speech which referred to the rapid cultural changes taking place in this age which require a deepening of co-operation between the ruler and subject, with a view to arriving at effective participation in implementing development plans.

"There are well defined and well-known methods for increasing cooperation between the government and citizens. And these include freedom of the press, freedom of writing and free public expression of views, and in my opinion, these are the best guarantees for correcting any mistakes and readjusting any course.

"For the application of laws equally on the citizens, both the citizens and government should cooperate very closely, and in this respect the government should re-consider the status and functions of departments that apply the different laws. Also for the citizens to have and enjoy a decent living and equal opportunities in employment and education, there

should be a basic change in the thinking and behaviour of a great number of government departments.

"Perhaps the most essential part of King Hussein's speech was that in which he stressed that public service should never be exploited by officials for attaining personal gains. This means that the appointment to a post should be understood to mean that only those who are capable of handling that post and willing to assume its responsibilities should be offered the chance of acquiring it. This also means that a public official's post should not serve as a forum for political gibberish or for fabricating rumours as is the practice of several political groupings whose aim in the first place is to remove a certain team or employee from office. This can never be described a true political action serving public interest.

"Therefore genuine political work that serves public interest should take place within organised, responsible and public political action; and it is time for us to open the way for and encourage such organised political action between the government and the masses, because it is the only substitute for the 'gibberish gangs'.

"The existence of the National Consultative Council in Jordan

highlights Jordanian political thinking, but it is hoped that this council and its functions will be developed into a formula which would serve as a first phase for restoring organised political life in the country."

Government's accountability

Mr. Hikmat, who is a former minister of culture and arts and now the chairman of the NCC's legal committee, said that any public position should be subject to public control and the responsible official should face "reward and punishment" in a more efficient manner than the case is at present.

He added: "We do not deny what the present government has done in this respect. In fact, we appreciate its efforts; but we demand that departments handling public services in the country should be developed, controlled and guided. We strongly demand that the government adopt a system whereby a candidate for a public position submit documents stating his or her personal property — financial position and real estate — and those of their family and children as a pre-condition for acquiring the post. This will be in implementation of King Hussein's directives that a public position should not serve as an arena for attaining personal gains.

The basic option of the Jordanian government was and still is the domination of and prevalence of law — something which King Hussein stressed in his speech — and this is indeed the option of a government that enjoys total sovereignty and that offers its citizens equal opportunities and justice for all. This must by far be the public's option too. I do not say that in the course of achieving all that the government must shoulder all the responsibility. Neither this government nor any other can shoulder all this burden without effective and serious co-operation from the public in a constant and brave manner. In my opinion the NCC is the natural place for undertaking initiatives in this respect. I believe that the NCC's National Mobilisation Committee, (that which was set up during the early days of the present third NCC to mobilise political action in the country), which has been ineffective so far, is best qualified to assume that role. In addition I call on the government to seriously re-examine the function of its various information media. Mr. Hikmat said those were his views and seven other



Mahmoud Al Kayed



Taher Hikmat

NCC members: Izziddin Al Khateib, Jawdat Shoul, Mifleh Al Lawzi, Mamdouh Abbadi, Issa Al Rimouni, Hammad Al Ma'ayah and Hani Abu Hijleh.

Members support Hikmat

Another NCC member Sulaiman Irtameh called on the government to protect Jordan's national security and interests from "those who gather wealth at the expense of the public." The government has a responsibility of protecting the country from those who used their official positions to gather wealth at the expense of others, he said. Mr. Irtameh added that "our newspapers and information media have been committed to the country's principles but a certain number of officials in charge of public offices have failed to show such commitment."

NCC member Amin Shuqair expressed support for Mr. Hikmat's views and called on the government to adopt them. "In so doing, the government will be taking the first step towards creating an effective people's power capable of confronting the enemies."

he said. "However, big our army is, we will never be able to maintain steadfastness unless the whole population is mobilised and guided in the right course." Mr. Shuqair added.

"For the public to be mobilised, citizens should have the opportunity and right to decision-making. Democracy which can be manifested in free expression, and political systems — under the umbrella of the law — have now become essential and inevitable. We have so far resorted to all means for strengthening our steadfastness without the power of the people, but we failed, and therefore we call for this power to be released and to be well-employed because it is indeed indispensable.

No cause for worry

Another NCC member Mahmoud Al Kayed commented on Mr. Hikmat's views by saying that "there should be no cause for worry or fear about the country's national security. What happens here, what rumours circulate, is a commonplace in other countries too and can happen under any government in this country or

abroad." He added: "Our country is in good and able hands and our leadership is vigilant. The matters referred to by Mr. Hikmat can be described as natural and rather a healthy sign but we hope that every citizen and every public official will carry out his or her duty conscientiously and faithfully."

NCC member Salman al Qudah also voiced support for Mr. Hikmat's proposals with regard to candidates assuming responsible public positions.

Mr. Nimr Al Zenati also spoke at the session. He did not think that the situation "was that bad" but still he supported Mr. Hikmat's proposals.

Mr. Jawdat Shoul called on the government to make a reassessment of the internal situation. He said: "In view of the recent American veto at the U.N. Security Council and in the light of the prime minister's comments against the U.S. position, I think we should bring a real change into our consumer oriented society and get rid of the feeling of total relaxation and idleness. We ought to prepare the people in a manner so as to enable it to face the possibility of closing the door to peace."

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SPORTS

Nicholas lives up to publicity

LONDON (R) — Charlie Nicholas, the most talked about arrival in England since Julius Caesar landed on these shores in 55 B.C., made his long-awaited debut in the famous red and white shirt of Arsenal on Saturday.

And although he did not get his name on the scoreline in the 2-1 win over Luton, the £750,000 (\$1.25 million) striker looked every inch the new 'emperor' of English soccer.

Nicholas, 21, top scorer in Britain with Glasgow Celtic last season, was involved in the Arsenal opener and his every touch of the ball spelled danger for Luton and brought roars of approval from the Highbury terraces.

It was not such a satisfactory afternoon for another 'new boy', Liverpool's 61-year-old manager Joe Fagan.

Fagan, who took over from Bob Paisley earlier this summer, watched helplessly from the dugout as the champions struggled to an embarrassing 1-1 draw at newly-promoted Wolverhampton.

Meanwhile, Manchester United confirmed their status as Liverpool's likeliest challengers this season with a competent 3-1 home win over second division champions Queens Park Rangers.

Arsenal went ahead in the 22nd minute when Nicholas released England fullback Kenny Sansom down the left with a cheeky backheel.

Sansom switched the ball inside to Paul Davis who swept a superb cross into the box where Tony Woodcock rose above the Luton defence to send a powerful header high into the net.

The visitors hit back through

Paul Walsh five minutes before the interval but little Brian McDermott gave Nicholas a day to remember with a superb winner early in the second half.

Liverpool, chasing the title for the seventh time in 10 years, fell behind to the first goal of the season when Wolverhampton fullback Geoff Palmer slotted home a penalty after 80 seconds.

But 'super-striker' Ian Rush spared their blushes one minute after the interval when he took a pass from captain Graeme Souness to crash home a tremendous equaliser.

Dutchman Arnold Muhren was Manchester United's hero. He opened the scoring with an eighth minute penalty against Rangers and created the opening for Frank Stapleton to add the second in the 27th minute.

And although Rangers reduced the deficit through Paul Allen 10 minutes into the second half, Muhren made it 3-1 with a superb individual effort in the closing stages.

The opening day of the season produced 37 goals compared to 27 on the same Saturday last year with Aston Villa and near-neighbours West Bromwich weighing in with seven between them.

Villa emerged 4-3 winners in a vastly entertaining contest which earned both teams a standing ovation from the spectators.

Nois County and West Ham also hit four, County winning at newly-promoted Leicester while the 'Hammers' hammered visiting Birmingham.

Watford, runners-up to Liverpool last season, must already be regretting top-scorer Luther Blissett's £1 million (\$1.5 million)

transfer to A.C. Milan in Italy.

They crashed to a 3-2 home defeat against Coventry whose fans had difficulty in recognising their team.

New manager Bobby Gould sold nine players and bought 11 during the close season but it was two men he did not sign who gave Coventry an early, and decisive, 2-1 lead — Watford's Ian Golton and Pat Rice both had the misfortune to score own goals.

Tottenham, third favourites behind Liverpool and Manchester United, made their now-customary poor start by going down 3-1 at Ipswich.

Tottenham manager Keith Burkinshaw spent £600,000 (\$900,000) on Danny Thomas and Gary Stevens to bolster his suspect defence during the summer break.

But that failed to cure Tottenham's old defensive failings and two ludicrous errors presented England striker Eric Gates with the simplest of goals in the 37th and 48th minutes.

Steve Archibald pulled one back in the 55th minute but Gates' international colleague Paul Mariner put the result beyond doubt 60 seconds from time.

Glasgow Celtic, readjusting to life after the loss of Nicholas, crept into the second round of the Scottish League Cup despite being held to a goalless draw by lowly Brechin. Celtic struggled through 1-0 on aggregate.

European Cup-Winners' Cup holders Aberdeen showed Celtic

now to deal with inferior opposition with a 3-1 win at Raith which gave them a 1-2-1 win over the two legs.

Egypt's Al Zamalek soccer club to play local teams

AMMAN (J.T.) — A decision by Al Jazirah and Al Ahli football clubs managements was taken to appoint Dr. Mohammad Mamsar as president of the higher committee for organising the soccer matches between the visiting Egyptian Al Zamalek soccer team and Al Jazirah team on Friday Sept. 2 and with Al Ahli team on Sunday Sept. 4.

The committee which consists of Messrs Sameeh Shafakji, Ismail Al Himouz, Sameeh Haboubi, Bassam Haron, Nazmi Al Saeed and Fares Al Jagheer assembled Saturday in a meeting at Al Ahli club and discussed all preparations needed.

Al Jazirah club requested the patronage of Mr. Adnan Abu Odeh Minister of Information for their match with Al Zamalek and Al Ahli requested the patronage of Mr. Abdul Rasoul Al Rawabdeh Mayor of Amman for their match.

Hassan Shihadeh a retired Al Zamalek team member will be playing with Al Jazirah. Ironically, Taleb Ismail, the star of Al Jazirah team will retire at the same game.

The Zamalek club finished its preparation for the travelling of their delegation and transportation to Amman. The delegation is headed by Mohammad Hassan Hilmi, president of the club.

The delegation includes the teams coach Abu Rajeeb, a doctor, and 25 players.

Military starts '83 shooting championships

AMMAN (J.T.) — Under the patronage of the Chief of Staff Major General Fathi Abu Taleh the Military Sports Federation Saturday began the shooting championships for 1983 season and will continue till next Tuesday.

The secretary of the federation Major Mohammad Bzadough said that this championship includes 35 participants representing seven groups from the Armed Forces formations.

The competition is held according to the rules of the International Shooting Federation and the National Council for Military Sports as well as with the directions of the Military Sports Federation.

The competition includes shooting from the distance of 300 metres in three positions: Lying position, sitting and leaning positions with slow and fast shooting competitions. Results will be calculated for the best four shooters. Every team consists of 5 shooters.

Mr. Bzadough said that the Military Sports Federation will hold other activities like the military Pentathlon competitions from Sept. 4 till 9. Track and Field competitions from Sept. 11 till 15. Volleyball tournament from Sept. 24 till Oct. 5.

The general sports festival will also take place in November as well as the Tae-Kwon-Do competition from Dec. 3 till 8.

Amman Crown Hotel organises swimming meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — Amman Crown Hotel will Sunday hold its second annual swimming competition under the patronage of Mr. Suleiman Arar, Speaker of the National Consultative Council (NCC). A total of 70 competitors of all ages will be taking part in the tournament which is to be watched by representatives of Jordanian sports and swimming clubs, officials and other invited guests, according to Mr. Samir Al Dalil, the swimming coach. He said participation in the competition will be open for both sexes and a special ceremony will be held at the end of the tournament to honour the winners.

Abu Nowar to attend sports meeting in Morocco

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Culture and Youth Ma'an Abu Nowar will leave for Morocco on Wednesday to take part in Arab Youth and Sports Ministers meetings to be held at Mohammedideh. Al Ra'i newspaper said that the minister will carry to the meetings a working paper on the subject of allowing Egyptian sports teams to take part in future Arab sports tournaments. The subject is one of the ministers' agenda at Kuwait's request. The minister was quoted as saying earlier that Jordan will support the return of Egyptian sports teams to Arab tournaments.

Italy wins 2nd swimming gold

ROME (R) — Giovanni Franceschi brought Italy their second gold medal on the last day of the European Swimming Championships here on Saturday when he won the 200 metres individual medley in a European record time.

The 30-year-old from Milan, who won the 400 metres individual medley gold on Monday, took the 200 in two minutes 2.48 seconds to smash the record of Alexander Sidorenko.

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Meyfarth bids to take back world high jump record

COLOGNE, West Germany (R) — All eyes will be on local heroine Ulrike Meyfarth at an international athletics meeting here on Sunday when she bids to win back the women's world high jump record.

Meyfarth, the 1972 Olympic Champion, broke her own world mark of 2.02 metres last Sunday when she cleared 2.03 at the European Cup final in London.

But within minutes world champion Tamara Bykova of the Soviet Union also went clear at the height to share the record and on Thursday evening Bykova soared clear at 2.04 in Pisa, Italy, to snatch the mark in her own right.

Now Meyfarth, 27, who believes she is capable of clearing 2.05, desperately wants the mark back — and nothing would please her more than to regain it in front of her home fans.

Meyfarth has tried to play down what will be her last competition of the season. "My form is good," she said. "I have trained hard for this event but people should not expect me to set a new record straightaway."

But one West German newspaper headline on Saturday read: "Ulrike, it's your turn again."

Her rivalry with the Soviet girl has been intense in recent months. She beat her in Athens to win the European title last September when she set the 2.02 mark, but finished second to her in the World Championships in Helsinki.

Meyfarth gained some compensation for the defeat by winning in London as the pair fought out their world record-shattering duel.

The Soviet 24-year-old, who is

not competing here, is a notable absentee from a star-studded meeting which includes American ace Calvin Smith, who ran 9.97 seconds over 100 metres in Zurich on Tuesday.

Most of the athletes who raced in Zurich and in Brussels Friday night will compete in Cologne. So too will world 400 metres hurdles champion Ed Moses of the U.S. He resumes his rivalry with West German Harald Schmid, second in Helsinki.

An absentee from the meeting will be American triple world champion Carl Lewis. Lewis, who won gold over 100 metres, long jump and with the American 4x100 metres relay team in Helsinki, was beaten by Smith over 200 metres on Tuesday in a thrilling sprint.

England beats France, clinches 5th place in European hockey

AMSTERDAM (R) — England produced their best form of the European Men's Hockey Championship on Saturday to beat France 3-0 and clinch fifth place in the tournament.

The England team, who failed to reach the semi-finals after losing narrowly to West Germany and Spain, scored within about 30 seconds of the start and remained on top throughout the match.

Their opening goal came from a penalty stroke during their first attack. Shirviant made no mistake with the shot.

Clift put them two up just before the interval and Barber settled the match with a goal from a short corner in the second half.

Although France played well, they had no answer to the skills of

the English, who are likely to be disappointed with their fifth place. England were third in the last championship.

Other finals for lower placings on Saturday all reversed the results of matches played earlier in the qualifying round.

Scotland beat Belgium 2-1 in the final for seventh and eighth places to revenge a 4-2 defeat on the opening day of the tournament.

The Scottish team were much improved from their earlier clash with Belgium and dominated much of the match. Excellent goalkeeping by Vervan Pappin helped snuff out Belgium's few threatening attacks, while the Belgian forwards were also off target with their shooting.

Poland beat Ireland 2-0 to take ninth place. The Poles, ranked eighth in the world, have appeared below form on the artificial turf here, which they are not used to, but on Saturday they raised their game and outplayed the Irish.

Austria produced the surprise of the day to beat Wales 1-0 and take 11th place. The Austrians had previously conceded 40 goals in six matches at the tournament.

Wales, who finished sixth in the last European Championship, had plenty of chances to win the match but their forwards' shooting was abysmal.

The final between the Netherlands, and Soviet Union and third and fourth place match between West Germany and Spain will be played on Sunday.

Americans drop America's Cup protest

NEWPORT, Rhode Island (R) — The New York Yacht Club Friday night announced it was dropping its objections to the radical keel design of America's Cup challengers Australia II and Britain's Victory '83.

It said it had received verification from the International Yacht Racing Union (IYRU) that a ruling on the design of the British yacht's keel — stating that keel flaps were legal — was issued in August 1982.

"We are also advised that the same ruling applies to the keel of Australia II," club Commodore Robert Stone Jr told a press conference.

He said the ruling had been given by Anthony Warts, Chairman of the International Measurement Committee.

The New York Yacht Club, which organises the America's Cup races, would abide by the ruling for this year's competition, which begins on September 13, Stone added.

But "to ensure the fairest possible ratings for future matches," he said the club would pursue its request with the International Yacht Racing Union's keelboat technical committee for clarification and interpretation of the Australian and British yacht's "peculiarities of design."

The New York Yacht Club's decision lifts a cloud which has been hanging over the America's Cup series since the Americans formally challenged the legality of the Australian yacht early this month.

Australia II, with its winged, bulbous keel, became the centre of the controversy after it outstripped all its rivals in the challengers' trials.

The American camp, which conceded that the Australian "wonder boat" had a good chance of taking the America's Cup from the United States for the first time in the 132-year-old history of the trophy, claimed that its unusual keel made it faster than more orthodox 12-metre yachts and gave it an unfair advantage over its rivals.

Victory '83 entered the controversy last Saturday when it, too, had wings fitted to its keel. But it emerged later that before building the yacht the British syndicate had made a formal inquiry to the IYRU about the legality of the wings.

After getting clearance from the IYRU the British fired wings to the keel of another boat which they used as a "trial horse" against Victory '83. It was not until last Saturday that wings were fitted to Victory '83 itself for a race against Australia II, which the British boat lost.

Stone complained that "for rea-

sons unknown to us" neither the British challengers nor the IYRU had advised the U.S. Yacht Racing Union of the New York Yacht Club of the August 1982 ruling on Victory '83's keel.

"Regrettably this omission has resulted in unnecessary controversy," he said.

On another dispute, about alleged Dutch involvement in designing Australia II's keel, Stone said the New York Yacht Club had felt obliged to pursue its inquiry in its capacity as guardian of the deed of gift for the America's Cup.

"We feel obligated, not only to our own defenders' syndicates, but to the other challengers as well," Stone said.

Under America's Cup rules, only nationals of a challenging country may participate in designing and building a yacht for the race.

Stone said: "When there is some report that possibly contravenes the condition of the deed of gift, we feel an obligation to check into it. And what we've done has all been done in a logical and fair way."

Robert McCullough, Chairman of the New York Yacht Club's America's Cup Committee, said the club's conduct in the controversies had been "absolutely straightforward."

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ECONOMY

20th anniversary of WFP

How to put food to work as capital: Sampler of Jordan projects provides evidence

AMMAN (J.T.) — The World Food Programme (WFP) this year is 20 years old.

In the 20 years, the programme has committed over \$6,000 million to more than 1,100 development projects and 600 emergencies.

It is estimated to have directly benefited more than 170 million people.

Currently disbursing \$600 million worth of food annually, the programme is now the largest source of assistance, apart from the World Bank Group, within the United Nations system.

The WFP, a joint undertaking of the United Nations and Food Agricultural Organisation (FAO), seeks to stimulate economic and social development through aid in

form of food. Its resources come mainly from voluntary contributions in commodities, cash or services provided by governments.

Food aid is more controversial than financial assistance.

It has been accused of a host of ill-effects, from reducing local incentives to produce food to causing damaging shifts in food habits, away from local staples to imported wheat, away from breast-feeding to the use of powdered milk.

No doubt there are instances where it has had these effects but, properly managed, it can contribute to food-sufficiency.

A sampler of WFP-assisted projects in Jordan provides evidence of how food aid can be put into

good use.

Farmers in Jordan have a tough job. Much of their land is mountainous, and dry. In hot temperatures, the scarce moisture evaporates rapidly. Rain when it comes, falls heavily, and runs down the slopes, carrying the topsoil with it.

Forests, which once covered these lands, have been cut down over the years, leaving the land bare and more susceptible to erosion. Supporting agriculture on that land is thus increasingly important.

Jordan is a food-deficit country, importing more than half of what its population eats.

Food imports account for 25 per cent of all imports, aggravating the trade deficit.

The government of Jordan has initiated a number of programmes to counter these trends.

In a series of projects in the highlands, WFP is providing food as an incentive for land development and crop production. Most of the land is held privately in plots of 5 hectares or less.

The project is encouraging farmers to shift from producing cereals on these marginal lands to growing fruit trees, whose deeper roots elapse the soil to the hillside. The olives and other fruit produced can be sold to increase income.

Other soil conservation measures include building stone terraces, which help retain moisture. WFP provides wheat, oils, sugar and milk to these projects, which

act as an incentive to farmers to take on these self-help activities. The foods also provide sustenance in the period before the trees become productive.

Food is also provided as part-payment of wages for reforestation and conservation work done on government-owned lands.

Another sampler in Jordan gives additional proof of increasing effectiveness of food as a source of investment in agricultural development.

A project for rangeland and forage development started some three years ago through co-operatives. The overall objective of the project is to increase meat production in the country and improve the income of small farmers through three major activities:

First, protection of natural rangeland, increase its forage shrubs and rationalise their use with an ultimate goal of establishing an increasing number of range reserves.

Second, introduction of cereal-forage legume system in order to produce green fodder for sheep feeding.

Third, sheep fattening instead of early slaughtering.

The food incentive is provided to members of co-operatives who participate in the project. Sheep fattening is carried out through seasonal credits the source of which is a fund established by JCO from proceeds of WFP wheat sold to the ministry of supply.

Pravda firmly backs Soviet farm reforms

MOSCOW (R) — Controversial farm reforms that make Soviet workers reliant on profits instead of a fixed salary were given firm backing by the Communist Party newspaper Pravda Friday.

In a report from the Orenburg region in the southern Urals, Pravda said that where the so-called "team contract" system had been introduced it had been a major success and sharply improved yields and productivity levels.

The reform encourages farmhands to set up semi-autonomous teams and do work for agricultural managers on a contractual basis rather than working for them as fixed staff.

Instead of receiving a regular salary, their wages are heavily dependent on sharing out the profits made.

The Soviet leadership has been encouraging the spread of the new system for the past year.

But officials say there has been resistance from farm managers, who feel the system weakens their control, and from many workers who prefer the reliability of a fixed salary.

Pravda has been cautious about the topic up to now but Friday's front-page report, which included approving comments on the new method, showed it was giving its full backing.

Western diplomats believe the new method is still a controversial topic among the Communist Party leadership as some leading members have pointedly failed to endorse it in speeches or articles.

Soviet leader Mr. Yuri Andropov has placed great emphasis on raising labour productivity and increasing financial rewards for hard work.

The diplomats said some senior party figures evidently feared this could create divisions in society and had ideological objections to such blatant use of the profit motive, long scorned as a capitalist evil.

Pravda's report Friday said that on the farms where the team contract system was in operation in Orenburg there had been a highly successful grain harvest this year with yields significantly greater than on neighbouring farms.

Pointing to the improvement in productivity, it said that in one case a team of six harvester and tractor drivers were now doing work previously carried out by 15.

But the party daily also said there had been difficulties in encouraging some farms to adopt the system.

Senior party officials have said they would like the method operating throughout the country by next year.

Aridor indirectly encourages settlement drive in West Bank Israel fails to back austerity plan

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — After two weeks of stormy debate, Israel's divided coalition has voted to trim government spending and raise taxes, but refused to back a more drastic austerity plan proposed by the finance ministry.

The rejection of the more stringent budget plan was seen as a major defeat for Finance Minister Yoram Aridor who has been struggling to turn around the beleaguered economy.

He faces mounting pressure from the opposition, many businessmen and newspapers in the face of faltering exports, a fast-rising foreign debt and three-figure inflation which shows no sign of slackening.

Mr. Aridor told a news conference this week he had secured cabinet approval to slash government spending by almost \$600 million.

This is well short of his original goal of cutting nearly a billion dollars from the \$24 billion budget. Economists doubt whether the cuts agreed so far will cover Israel's budget deficit.

This is worsening steadily because of the estimated million dollars a day the government is spending for the army's occupation of southern Lebanon.

Mr. Aridor, pressing for overall budget cuts of nearly \$1 billion twice threatened resignation on Aug. 15 during a series of heated meetings, aides said.

Last Sunday's decision at a record nine-hour cabinet meeting to raise taxes in place of some of the spending cuts proposed by Mr. Aridor so enraged leaders of the Tami Party, one of the partners in Prime Minister Menachem



Yoram Aridor

Begin's coalition, that they advised their members to quit the government.

Mr. Begin has asked the Tami leaders to reconsider. A final decision is not expected until next week.

If Tami's three-man faction went ahead with its threat, Mr. Begin's parliamentary majority would be reduced to only two seats in the 120-seat parliament.

Mr. Begin himself has not played a major part in the marathon debates on the budget during the last two weeks.

In the past, he has shown little interest in economic affairs, preferring to concentrate on defence and foreign policy.

"Aridor failed to stand up to pressures within the cabinet," said economics commentator Mr. Dov Genikovsky in the Yediot Aharanot newspaper. "He asked for a

cut of almost a billion dollars but he hasn't come close."

Economists said a significant proportion of the \$600 million in cuts would not even be implemented in the current financial year.

"The real figure is closer to \$400 million," said Mr. Genikovsky. "Aridor's figure included defence cuts of about \$250 million. But they will be spread over a year and a half with only about \$125 million implemented this year."

However, the cabinet decisions to increase purchase tax on a range of consumer goods — despite Mr. Aridor's objections — as well as abolish a maternity grant and to tax child allowances for families with three children or less were widely seen as the end of an era of election-oriented economics in Israel.

Meanwhile, Mr. Aridor is continuing his efforts to secure new cuts.

He hopes to slash education spending by \$50 million and to save another \$100 million by cutting spending of all the other ministries by half a per cent.

Mr. Aridor came to office a few months before the 1981 general election at a time when Mr. Begin's government was trailing the Labour opposition in opinion polls.

His policy of slashing taxes and import duties on a wide range of consumer goods played a large part in restoring government popularity and helped ensure Mr. Begin's re-election.

Mr. Aridor pledged when he took office to curb inflation, but he has not succeeded.

The current inflation rate is an

annual 125 per cent, slightly down from 1982's rate of 131.5 per cent but still well above the 1981 figure of 101.5 per cent.

This month the finance minister had to abandon his controversial policy of holding back the Israeli shekel's devaluation against foreign currencies.

Furthermore, since he took office the country's foreign debt has sharply increased and now stands at almost \$21 billion.

In his defence, Mr. Aridor says Israel has avoided the high rates of unemployment suffered by most other Western countries in the past few years.

Unemployment is presently 4.5 per cent of the work force, according to official statistics.

Mr. Aridor's budget-cutting programme has not included trimming the large sums of money being spent on Israel's settlement drive on the occupied West Bank.

Official figures for the amounts Israel spends there are not available. But the figure is believed to be hundreds of millions of dollars a year.

Iran claims surplus in balance of payments

LONDON (R) — Iran had a balance of payments surplus of \$6 billion in the financial year which ended last March, Central Bank Governor Mohsen Noorbakhsh claimed Saturday.

Speaking at a seminar on economic statistics in Tehran, he said industrial output had risen by 11 per cent in the first nine months of the 1982/83 financial year, the Iranian national news agency IRNA reported.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

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JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GILTH
BEPOR
DUNCIE
MOABEA

SOME PEOPLE WHO DON'T PAY TAXES IN DUE TIME

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FRAME VISOR COUPON DRUDGE
Answer: He couldn't think straight because he always had this—CURVES ON HIS MIND

Peanuts

Mutt 'n' Jeff

Andy Capp

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The morning is not good for you to get all worked or stirred up about some condition of which you can do little but later you find a more sensible and rational influence.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Study your personal desires but don't do anything about them as yet and later study any financial problems that you may have.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Don't get upset over a secret worry and later you can do the things that bring you greater benefits. Watch your temper.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You could have an annoying time with another individual, but that is soon over and you can plan the future more intelligently.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Steer clear of an argument with a highway. Then you know how to get your personal wishes very easily.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Try to understand the highest concepts so that you can apply them wisely in your daily life. The evening is fine for relaxing.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Look on the bright side of things in connection with one you like and later you can be off to interesting matters.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Don't permit a thoughtless word from a partner upset you and you soon can re-establish harmony between you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A duty you have to do is not to your liking, but get it done anyway, then later you can confer with experts.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Try to cheer up the one you love and then you can get into whatever tasks are ahead of you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get rid of that grumpy mood and get into outlets that give you pleasure and are profitable as well.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Handling some communication that is not pleasing to you in a very conservative way is best. Confer with allies.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Concentrate on personal goals and forget financial tension and later you can be with good friends you like.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one of those interesting young persons whose sweetness will bring harmony and love at home and wherever he, or she goes in early life, but upon reaching adulthood will become very active.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword

by R.M. McWhirk

ACROSS	25 "...that are — visible..."	52 Rasillency used for ornaments	11 Bring down upon one's self
1 Wound cover	26 Singer	55 Serious play	12 "Vanhoe" author
6 Barbara in Ireland	29 Vehicle and family trip	59 Author of "Hsre"	13 Ungentle
10 "And the — ran away..."	30 Special trip	60 Sleeping	24 Buses
14 Montan's neighbor	32 Bsnk examination	61 Composition by Elia	26 "— we forget"
15 Decoy	37 Vent	62 Abstract being	27 Wheel
16 Cuzco	38 Abolish	63 Dressed	28 Image
17 Engraved gemstone	41 Strained	64 Lift	29 — boom
18 Asian sea	43 Animals	65 Paruae	31 Hidden
19 Acidity	45 Secular	66 Squirming	33 General
20 Hair lock	47 Bains	67 Strips of wood	34 Nap
21 Certain birch seeds	48 Fills with consternation		35 Roman road
23 Nant's unclea			36 Hardy heroine

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1. HAMA RHEAM GIVEN
2. ADAB TIRMA REATA
3. PERSONNEL UNCUT
4. PICTURES STYANDIN
5. SCANDINAVIAN
6. CHIEFS DEPTLOY
7. HAVEN CRITER AVIA
8. AGES BATES STEP
9. HAW ALLEN BOERS
10. ARMAAASO DOR
11. FLORIST FIRMESSE
12. FLORIST VARTED
13. MAINE SUPERSEDE
14. ALLOES TIEES EGAN
15. LIAND SILAT TIENS

1. Early Briton
2. Jewish month
3. Subdue
4. Xmas
5. Indiana native
6. Low apirts
7. Atmosphere
8. Triangular items
9. Moon goddess
10. Princess of Wales
11. French composer
12. Ma. Rslnes
13. Columnist
14. Rhine region
15. On grammar work
16. Music cue
17. Parfumed
18. Smeltuck
19. Part of the world
20. Spar
21. Vleas votes

WORLD

Filipinos mourn Aquino en masse

TARLAC, Philippines (R) — Thousands of people tossing confetti, coins and roses Saturday gave a hero's welcome to the body of murdered opposition leader Benigno Aquino when it arrived in the capital of his home province in the northern Philippines.

A cavalcade of cars in the cortege from Manila took more than four hours to make the 120-kilometre journey, twice the normal time, as crowds turned out in villages and towns along the way to pay their last respects.

Police motor cycle outriders flanked the hearse containing the former senator's body and the limousines with his widow, Corazon, their five children, his 73-year-old mother and close members of the family.

They were followed by relatives, friends, political allies and hundreds of supporters riding in trucks, vans, minibuses and taxis as well as in cars.

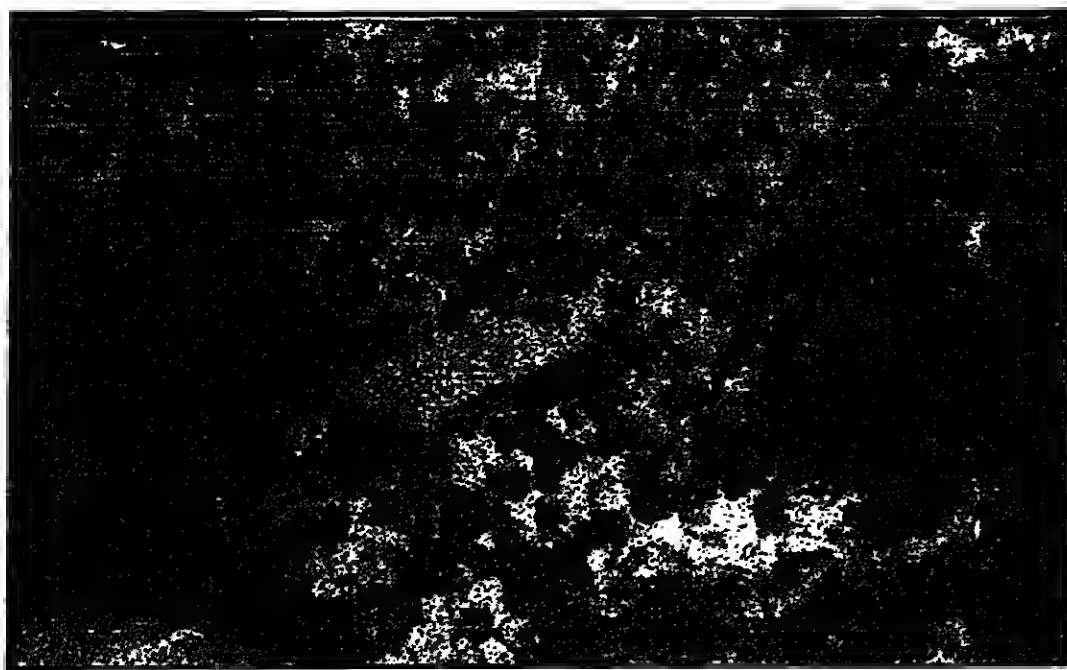
Mr. Aquino, shot by a lone gunman at Manila Airport when he returned last Sunday to the Philippines after three years of self-imposed exile in the United States, was born in the town of Concepcion, about 15 kilometres south-east of Tarlac.

The procession left Manila at dawn, setting out from the church in the north of the city where Mr. Aquino's body had lain since Thursday, viewed by thousands of mourners.

Police said more than 10,000 people marched behind the hearse as it inched its way to the provincial capitol building down a narrow road strewn with yellow confetti and decorated with yellow ribbon and bunting.

It took 30 minutes before guards managed to push back the noisy crowds and let the coffin through.

Agapito Aquino, one of his brothers, appealed for calm. "If you are disorderly, then we really



Mourners pack around the hearse carrying Benigno Aquino's body as it leaves his home in Manila. (A.P. wirephoto)

don't have hope in this land," he declared.

Mr. Aquino's mother, widow and children joined about 50 local officials in prayers in the wooden frame provincial administration building. A life-size portrait of Mr. Aquino hung behind the casket which was draped in the red, white and blue Philippines flag.

His mother, Aurora Aquino, thanked the people for their warm reception. "He came here because he does not want to be far from you. I brought him here so you could see how the bullet killed him. I did not have him cleaned," she said.

The body was later taken to the Spanish colonial period Roman Catholic cathedral where it will stay until Monday when it will be brought back to Manila for a funeral now fixed for Wednesday.

Meanwhile, Philippines Roman Catholic Cardinal Jaime Sin has declined a request by President Ferdinand Marcos to join a judicial commission set up to inquire into the murder of opposition leader Benigno Aquino, church sources said Saturday.

They said the cardinal had to refuse because it would conflict with an important meeting in October of the church synod at the Vatican.

The sources said the cardinal was drafting a letter that would be delivered to Mr. Marcos during the weekend.

Mr. Marcos asked Cardinal Sin to join the commission when one of its five named members signalled his intention not to join because of ill health.

The commission, headed by Supreme Court Chief Justice Enrique Fernando, was announced on Wednesday in the teeth of public demands for an inquiry into the death of Mr. Aquino.

The other three members of the commission are all former Supreme Court judges.

Former Chief Justice Roberto Concepcion, who apparently declined to serve for reasons of health, was considered the most independent of the five members.

The announcement was made a few hours before the cardinal was to deliver a strongly-worded speech warning the government it must be open and forthright in its investigation.

In an advance copy of his prepared remarks, the archbishop said anger was building up and resentment smouldering because of the murder and "could be set off at the slightest spark."

Reporter sets terms

TOKYO (R) — A Japanese journalist who has claimed that Philippines security men shot Mr. Aquino said Saturday he was prepared to testify in Manila about the murder if his conditions were met.

Kiyoshi Wakamiya, 37, who flew with Mr. Aquino to Manila from Taiwan last Sunday, told Reuters: "I am glad to go to Manila to testify over the assassination of opposition leader Aquino."

But he said he would go only on condition that a special inquiry ordered by President Marcos into the shooting investigated the three uniformed security men who took Mr. Aquino from the plane, and the seven or eight Filipino guards who held journalists on the plane as Mr. Aquino and the security men went down the aircraft steps.

A representative of the commission should then come to Tokyo and show him the outcome of the investigation, said Wakamiya, who returned here from Manila on Monday.

Wakamiya was commenting on remarks by metropolitan Manila police chief Maj.-Gen. Prospero Olivas, who told a press conference Friday the journalist should "in the interests of justice, come here with his evidence and enlighten us."

U.K. union chief names dangerous duo

MOSCOW (R) — British trade union chief Arthur Scargill branded Britain and the United States the biggest threat to world peace in a speech delivered in Moscow Saturday.

"The most dangerous duo are president Ray-gun and the plutonium blonde, Margaret Thatcher," the left-wing miners' union leader told an international conference of energy unions.

"Capitalism is in crisis. In a blind and stupid determination to preserve our present system, the United States and Britain in particular are ready to risk a nuclear confrontation," he added. The controversial union leader spoke out in support of Soviet disarmament initiatives such as President Yuri Andropov's offer Friday night to scrap some medium-range missiles withdrawn as part of an eventual East-West arms accord.

Informer threatened with divorce

BELFAST (R) — A police informer's wife freed after two months in the hands of Irish guerrilla kidnappers said she would divorce her husband unless he retracted evidence implicating some 20 people in guerrilla crimes.

Elizabeth Kirkpatrick, 27, was seized by members of the Irish National Liberation Army (INLA), one of the guerrilla groups fighting to end British rule in Northern Ireland.

They threatened to kill her unless her husband Harry, once a top INLA fighter, retracted testimony he has given to police, but released her Thursday.

Friday she spoke to reporters in a series of interviews and appealed to her husband to retract, adding: "If he goes ahead I will disown him and then file for divorce."

"I feel bitter. I think he's hurt me an awful lot, hurt his family and his friends, who are in jail because of him," she said.

She told reporters the worst moment during her ordeal was hearing that Kirkpatrick's stepfather Richard Hill and his daughter Diane, who were seized by the INLA from a holiday home in the Irish Republic last month, had been freed by a special unit of the Irish police last week.

"I knew I was the only one left that they had, and I was very frightened," she said.

She said her abductors treated her well. She had been moved from house to house, always at night.

Maria Peron to return to Argentina Sept. 3

MADRID (R) — Former Argentine President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron has confirmed she will return to Argentina from exile in Spain on Sept. 3, sources close to her said Saturday.

The confirmation came in a telegram sent Friday to Buenos Aires by her close aide and head of her personal bodyguard, Milos Vogetic, to Herminio Iglesias, candidate for the governorship of the city, the sources said.

They could not confirm reports in the Spanish press that Mrs. Peron would visit Rome on Sept. 1.

The former president is expected to preside over the Peronist Party's national congress convened for Sept. 3 and 4 which will nominate a candidate for the Oct. 30 elections, the sources said.

The Peronists — Argentina's largest political force — will be challenging the centre-right Radical Party for control of the next civilian government after almost eight years of military rule.

Mrs. Peron is not expected to make a second bid for the presidency, but Peronist sources in Argentina say her support for the Peronist candidate will be crucial to his success.

The 53-year-old widow of the Peronist movement's founder, Juan Domingo Peron, has been



Maria Estela Peron

absent from Argentine politics since her overthrow by a military coup in 1976.

She became president in 1974 on the death of her husband in office and ruled Argentina for two chaotic years, presiding over growing violence by leftist guerrilla groups and a crumbling economy.

She then spent five years in military custody following the 1976 coup and was convicted by an Argentine court of embezzling public funds. The conviction led to a judicial ban on her holding elected government office.

Mrs. Peron has consistently refused to give interviews to the press since her release or indicate what political attitude she will adopt on arrival in Argentina.

U.N. chief returns from Namibia largely optimistic

GENEVA (R) — The United Nations secretary general is expected to tell the Security Council that obstacles to setting up a U.N. military-civilian operation to prepare Namibia (South West Africa) for independence were largely removed in his talks this week with South African officials.

Javier Perez De Cuellar returned here Saturday from his Southern Africa mission and immediately began work on a report on Namibia that he must submit to the Security Council by Wednesday.

He has already indicated after two days of talks with South African leaders that he made "substantial progress" on Namibia but he gave no details of what was agreed, saying only that he would be reporting back to the Security Council.

At the same time South Africa repeated to him its demand that Cuban troops in Angola be removed before Namibia can attain statehood.

The Angolan-based nationalist movement SWAPO (South West Africa People's Organisation) has been fighting a 17-year-old bush war against South African rule of Namibia.

The secretary general conferred

in Luanda, the Angolan capital, Friday with President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, who told an applauding crowd at the airport that he would only discuss removing the Cubans from his country when the South African forces withdrew from Namibia.

Mr. Perez De Cuellar also had talks in Angola with SWAPO President Sam Nujoma on the Cape Town meeting. Mr. Nujoma said afterwards that Namibian independence and the Cuban issue must not be linked.

U.N. officials who feared that Mr. Nujoma might not have approved of the secretary general's visit to South Africa were relieved when Mr. Nujoma said: "I think he did the right thing."

The Security Council mandated Mr. Perez De Cuellar to try to speed a Namibian settlement and gave him virtually a free hand, but some African delegates in New York and some of his own staff did not want him to go to South Africa and Namibia.

But the secretary general indicated he felt the trip had been vindicated when he reported "substantial progress" after many hours of talks with South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha.

Polish press publishes Walesa speech

WARSAW (R) — The official Polish press Saturday published in full a speech by Lech Walesa, leader of the banned Solidarity trade union, the first time it has done so since the military takeover in December 1981.

But the government's rejection of him as a partner in future talks was maintained.

The Walesa speech, also carried by the PAP news agency, was delivered by the union leader last Thursday in reply to Deputy Prime Minister Mieczyslaw Rakowski's denunciation of Solidarity and Mr. Walesa personally at a meeting with Gdansk shipyard workers.

PAP quoted Mr. Rakowski as calling Mr. Walesa and his backers at the turbulent shipyard session "a gang of thugs who came only to break up or at least disturb the meeting."

PAP reported Mr. Walesa as telling Mr. Rakowski:

"I want you to sit down at a table with us and talk about the errors. Jointly we shall find solu-

tions and safeguard ourselves against further distortions for the better future of our homeland."

Mr. Rakowski, who was jeered by shipyard workers as he spoke, said the following day that "Walesa and his backers proved once again, perhaps for the last time, that they cannot be our partners in any negotiations on the future of the trade union movement," the agency reported.

Mr. Walesa was quoted as referring to an apparently earlier reference to thugs among Solidarity activists.

"I am convinced there weren't any (thugs) and I certainly was in the know. We never fought with our fists or with tanks and we don't intend to."

The verbal confrontation between Mr. Rakowski and Mr. Walesa took place in the same conference hall used for the signing by them of the August 1980 strike agreements which led to the birth of Solidarity.

Mr. Walesa referred to this fact when he said:

"This is a ball of common sense and sacrifice. Three years ago for the first time, and so far for the last, we spoke as one pole with another ... I feel there were mistakes on Solidarity's part, but in my view there were even bigger mistakes on the government's side."

In an appeal to the authorities, Mr. Walesa added:

"We did not get the chance to defend and explain ourselves publicly. Perhaps this time we shall. Please, do not let anything out but publish my entire address."

Mr. Walesa also appealed for the release of jailed members of Solidarity's top leadership whom he referred to as "those poor wretches in prison."

He rejected charges levelled by officials against him personally and told the authorities:

"As for my personal affairs, stop blabbering about my millions or about me being half-American. I am a Pole and have no bank accounts in the West."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Limpet mine causes Johannesburg blast

JOHANNESBURG (R) — An explosion which wrecked one floor of a 50-storey city centre office block in Johannesburg Friday night was caused by a limpet mine, police said Saturday. Security police chief Maj.-Gen. F.M. Steenkamp told journalists it was similar to the Soviet-made mines used by the banned African National Congress (ANC) in previous blasts. He said the mine, which had a timing device, was placed in a waste paper bin at the entrance to a consular office of the nominally independent but internationally unrecognised tribal homeland of the Ciskei. No one has yet claimed responsibility for the blast.

Magana says Stone should delay trip

SAN SALVADOR (R) — President Alvaro Magana said U.S. special envoy Richard Stone should postpone a planned second round of talks with Salvadoran leftist insurgents until the country's own peace commission was able to have a first meeting with rebel representatives. Mr. Magana told Reuters in an interview that the three-man peace commission, trying to defuse the El Salvador's civil war by persuading the rebels to participate in the electoral process, would meet guerrilla representatives within a few weeks. Informed sources in San Jose, Costa Rica, said that Mr. Stone was expected there Tuesday or Wednesday to meet representatives of two rebel factions.

S. Korea to launch diplomatic drive

SEOUL (R) — South Korean presidential envoys will visit 10 African, Middle East and Latin American countries next month to seek increased bilateral political and trade links, the foreign ministry said Saturday. Government Administration Minister Park Chan-Kung will visit Ivory Coast, Upper Volta, Niger and Ghana and former parliamentary speaker Jung Nae-Huk will go to Lebanon, Malawi and Swaziland, the ministry said. Lee Dae-Sop, a member of parliament of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, will visit Surinam, Jamaica and Bolivia.

Swazi royal feud holds up festival

MBABANE (R) — The annual maidens' reed dance, Swaziland's most festive and joyous event, has been cancelled because of the succession feud in the royal Dlamini family. Informed sources said the royal family disagreed on whether Queen Regent Ntombi or Dze-lwe, "the great she elephant" deposed early this month, should preside at the ceremony. The reed dance, which was due next weekend, involves thousands of maidens. Meanwhile, two princes have been detained, bringing to four the number of prominent Swazis held under emergency laws in connection with the monarchy row.

L.A. bank robbers break 1982 record

LOS ANGELES (R) — Nine Los Angeles banks were robbed Thursday in what police said was a record for the city. Police said the lone bandit took only several hundred dollars in most of their hold-ups, but in one bank a man stole \$2,000. The previous highest number of bank robberies in one day in Los Angeles, a city of three million people, was eight, set last February, police said.

Freeway killer gets 2nd death sentence

SANTA ANA, California (R) — The so-called freeway killer, William Bonin, was Friday sentenced to death for the second time in 17 months for the murder of four more youths. This brought to 14 the number of boys and youths Bonin, a 36-year-old truck driver, has been convicted of murdering. He stood straight ahead as Superior Court Judge Kenneth Lac sentenced him Friday to die in the gas chamber for what the judge called unbelievably cruel and wanton murders.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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ANSWERS TO BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South vulnerable, you hold:
♠AK873 ♥AJ96 ♦A8 ♣72
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♣ Pass
2 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass
?

What action do you take?
A.—You are in slam territory, but it won't help you to ask for aces. If partner has no ace, you can still be laydown for slam, but you don't know whether to bid it or not. The solution is to make a cue-bid of five diamonds. That will make it clear to partner that he needs first- or second-round control in clubs to move beyond five hearts.

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AKQ85 ♥AQ963 ♦5 ♣Q2
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♣ Pass
2 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass
?

What action do you take?
A.—You might rebid your hearts in the hope that partner has three-card support, but that is unlikely in the light of partner's bidding. He has shown a good, long club suit and a sub-minimum two-over-one response. Still, we feel your hand rates one move toward game because of your queen of clubs, and the bid we like is four clubs.

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AQJ5 ♥K7 ♦AK106 ♣A98
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
?

What do you bid now?
A.—It might seem that the value bid is a jump to four spades, but that does not take into account that aces and kings are undervalued in the point count and that you have a hand rich in controls. You should encourage partner to look for slam, and the way to do so is with a jump shift. We suggest three clubs. If given the opportunity, you should jump to four

spades at your next turn to show your excellent trumps.

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠KJ854 ♥K5 ♦AQ9652
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
1 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass
3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
?

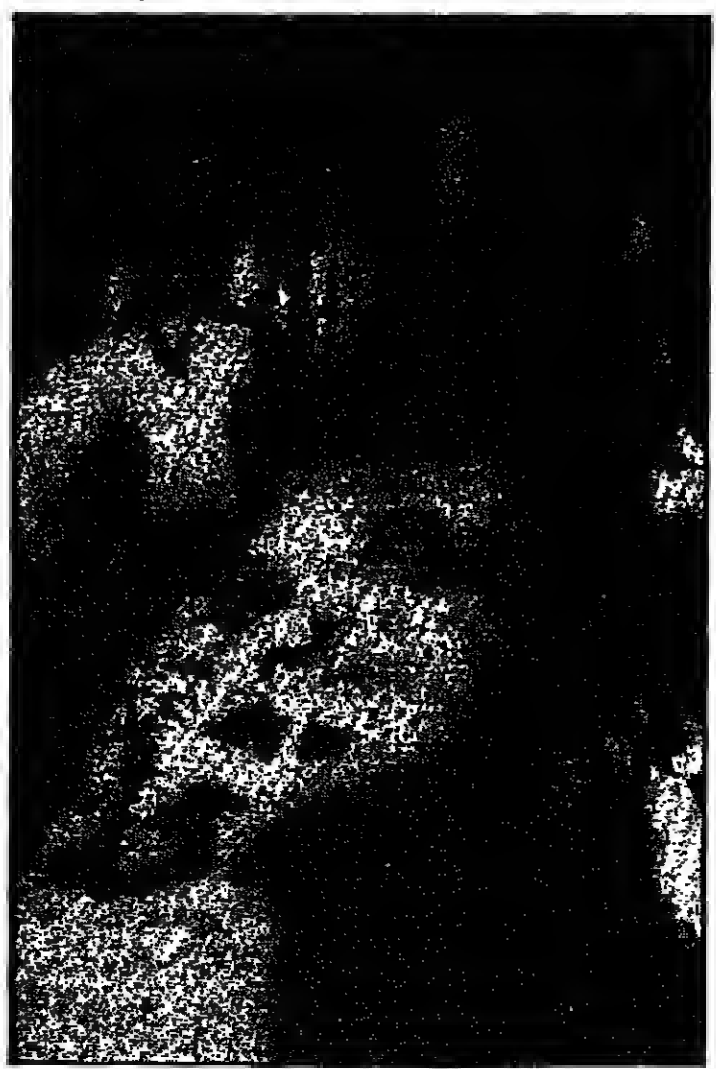
What action do you take?
A.—You have given partner a complete picture of your hand, and he has chosen to simply settle for game. Your void in partner's suit can hardly be called an asset, so there is no reason why you should bid on. Pass.

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠K3 ♥AJ1065 ♦AQ1073 ♣4
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♥ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass
?

What action do you take?
A.—Partner has shown no great values with his one-over-one response and simple raise of your second suit. Nevertheless, the fact that he did take two bids means that he cannot be minimum for his first action—he would have passed two diamonds in that case. We think you are clearly worth another move, and four diamonds is the obvious choice.

Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠K52 ♥J72 ♦AJ10653 ♣92
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
Pass 1 NT Pass Pass
Dble Pass ?

What action do you take?
A.—For his balancing double in the face of East's no trump opener, partner must have very close to an opening bid. There is little to choose between the two sides in strength, but your side has the advantage of being able to strike the first blow, and you can start the attack by leading from a good five-card suit. Pass. No great harm will have been done should East make his contract.



The slain Philippines opposition leader, Benigno Aquino's body lies in state in Manila Friday (A.P. wirephoto)

Chile vows not to renew state of emergency imposed after 1973 coup

SANTIAGO (R) — The Chilean government said Friday night it would not renew the state of emergency which has been in effect since a military coup on Sept. 11, 1973, brought Gen. Augusto Pinochet to power.

The announcement by Deputy Interior Minister German Gardeweg met one of the demands made Thursday by opposition political parties in their first meeting with new Interior Minister Sergio Jarpa.

Lawyers said the end of the state of emergency meant that restrictions on the movement of vehicles at night would be lifted and rights of assembly and expression would be restored.

But they pointed out that transitory Article 24 of the constitution remained in effect. It gives the president sweeping powers to detain people in places other than jails for five days without charges, to ban new publications and to expel people or send them into internal exile without recourse to the courts.

Diplomats said that the lifting of the state of emergency would in itself make only a small difference in practical terms, but it had great political significance.

"More than anything else, it places the moral burden on the government to prove that things have got worse if it wants to re-

introduce the state of emergency," one diplomat said.

Lawyers said that without the state of emergency it would not be possible to impose a curfew during the next day of protest on Sept. 8, called Thursday by opposition political parties.

A dusk-to-dawn curfew was enforced during the last day of protest on Aug. 11 and more than two dozen people were killed in clashes with troops.

Representatives of the five parties in the democratic alliance had a 90-minute meeting Thursday night with Mr. Jarpa and told him they stuck by their demand that President Pinochet resign.

Superpower flexibility eases path to START

WASHINGTON (USIA) — The chief U.S. delegate to the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) in Geneva says that U.S. and Soviet flexibility has resulted in "considerable movement" and "we are now approaching a framework for an agreement."

In an interview with the U.S. Information Agency (USIA) August 24, Edward Rowny expressed optimism that a new strategic arms agreement could be concluded in considerably less time than the nine years it took to negotiate the 1979 Salt II treaty.

Many of the things agreed upon in Salt II, Mr. Rowny said, have been incorporated in the new agreement. "We are not reinventing

the wheel, so from this point of view we can be more rapid." He added that the process can also be speeded up because he and chief Soviet negotiator Viktor Karpou know each other.

Mr. Rowny said that a START agreement is "entirely possible" before the successful development and installation of new, single-warhead, mobile missiles. A drastic reduction in the number of weapons is anticipated first, he said, and this would be followed by a move in the direction of more stabilising weapons systems in accordance with the recommendations of the Scomcroft commission.